

Greatest 365 Puzzles

Balogh Csaba



From practical games of 2012

Part I



Balogh Csaba was born on 19th of March 1987. His current rating is 2672. Grandmaster since 2004. European Individual U-16 Champion in 2003, Budva. Member of the Hungarian national Team since 2005. Best tournament result, Winner of the Fischer memorial Supertournament in 2008, Hévíz.

The book consists 365 practical puzzles from the first part of the Year 2012 selected into 3 different groups: „easy“, „medium“ and „hard“. At the end of the book you can check Your tactical abilities in a „test“ format. Great players like Kasparov, Aronian, Ivanchuk and many more Top players.

It's always a delight to see a book which aims to bring tactical positions in a good way of combining training and fun. The concept of this book, bringing only the latest examples, is to get an idea how we can trick our opponents nowadays!

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2012

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Balogh Csaba

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CSABA BALOGH

Greatest 365 Puzzles



Responsible editor
Csaba Balogh

Cover designer
Milos Sibinovic

Typesetting
Piotr Pielach <www.i-press.pl>

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Greatest 365 puzzles
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ul. Smutna 5a, 32-005 Niepolomice, Poland

e-mail: chessevolutionshop@yahoo.com
website: www.chess-evolution.com

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KEY TO SYMBOLS

=	Equality or equal chances
\pm	White has a slight advantage
\mp	Black has a slight advantage
\pm	White is better
\mp	Black is better
+ -	White has a decisive advantage
- +	Black has a decisive advantage
∞	unclear
∞	with compensation
\rightleftharpoons	with counterplay
\uparrow	with initiative
\rightarrow	with an attack
Δ	with the idea
\square	only move

N	novelty
!	a good move
!!	an excellent move
?	a weak move
??	a blunder
!?	an interesting move
?!	a dubious move
+	check
#	mate

EDITORIAL PREFACE

As a professional chess player, I know exactly how important it is to perform well in tactical calculations. We face them so often, that after playing a great game, we can simply blunder something and throw away a safe point, causing ourselves sleepless nights!

In almost 15 years of active chess career I have solved thousands of puzzles, like most of my GM colleagues — it is a clear must for a professional player to stay in a sharp shape.

Many puzzle books are based on artificial positions or selected only for their beauties. The concept of my book is different. The highest priority is to **use “the practical aspect of the puzzles” and take the level of calculation to a completely new dimension.**

All the puzzles have been selected from recent games, trying to put the reader in the shoes of “the player”.

The strength of the different sections also might give you the right evaluation of your current tactical skills and will develop them further.

I tried to mix three things in my book:

1. have a lot of fun by solving the puzzles,
2. discover many new tactical ideas,
3. and of course the direct practical use in the future games.

A very important moment to keep in mind — all the **practical motifs from the book can definitely be used in your future games!**

Enjoy!

INTRODUCTION

Useful information for the dear readers

The book contains 365 puzzles of different level and a huge range of tactical ideas. All the puzzles have been collected from practical games of the first four months of the year 2012, from events like Wijk ann Zee, Gibraltar, Aeroflot Open, the European Individual Championship, etc

The book consists of five chapters

1. **Easy** (109 Puzzles)
2. **Medium** (122 Puzzles)
3. **Hard** (74 Puzzles)
4. **Tests** (50 Puzzles)
5. **Top 10** (10 Puzzles)

All in all 365 puzzles.

In the “**easy**”, “**medium**” and “**hard**” sections, the puzzles are sorted according to the date of the current game. The “**Top 10**” is based on the level of beauty of the puzzles.

I advice you to finish the first three chapters of the book. Before going to the “**Tests**” section.

The “**easy**” section is a good warm-up, but even here you might find some examples, which are not direct. For the “**medium**” you will need to find a silent place and to concentrate better, some of the puzzles are already as hard as a walnut. For the “**hard**” section you must be... hard! Some positions are very tough, here you should definitely pay more attention to the “**smiley**” helpers which could lead you to the right path.

Here are your four biggest helpers



- if you see this face, then there are two ways to victory.



- try to find a silent move, which is usually based on a tactical idea



- Your intuition is requested now. When it is impossible to calculate the lines until the end, you should try to feel that things must work out well for you.



- it is really the time to have a deep thought. It might be, that the most obvious move is not the right one or the “main” move of the line is not the first one.

In case You see a puzzle without a “smiley”, you need to find the right moves on your own.

Each chapter has its own solution part, in some of the puzzles you will find word explanations as well.

— EASY —



(1)

- ▷ L. Babujian (2474)
 ▶ S. Ter Sahakyan (2569)
 Armenian Championship
 22.01.2012

1... -+

**(2)**

- ▷ A. Motylev (2677)
 ▶ D. Vocaturo (2545)
 Wijk aan Zee
 22.01.2012

1. +- **(3)**

- ▷ J. Alvarez Marquez (2398)
 ▶ V. Bologan (2680)
 Gibraltar
 24.01.2012

1. +/-

**(4)**

- ▷ V. Erdos (2634)
 ▶ T. Coleman (2536)
 Gibraltar
 24.01.2012

1. +- 

(5)

- ▷ R. Felgaer (2571)
 ▶ A. Oberhofer (2299)
 Gibraltar
 24.01.2012

1. +-

**(6)**

- ▷ E. Lund (2414)
 ▶ S. Movsesian (2700)
 Gibraltar
 24.01.2012

1... -+

**(7)**

- ▷ M. Parligras (2650)
 ▶ F. El Debs (2497)
 Gibraltar
 25.01.2012

1. +-

**(8)**

- ▷ J. Gallagher (2505)
 ▶ C. Allor (2145)
 Gibraltar
 27.01.2012

1. +-



[9]

▷ M. Adams (2724)

▶ D. Howell (2603)

Gibraltar

30.01.2012

1. +-

**[10]**

▷ G. Sargissian (2683)

▶ R. Valhondo Morales (2046)

Gibraltar

30.01.2012

1. +-

**[11]**

▷ A. Shirov (2710)

▶ T. Baron (2498)

Gibraltar

30.01.2012

1. +-

**[12]**

▷ F. Bindrich (2548)

▶ W. Uhlmann (2379)

German league

04.02.2012

1. +-



[13]

▷ P. Hoffmann (2317)

▶ L. Vogt (2410)

German league

04.02.2012

1. +-

**[14]**

▷ V. Klyuner (2428)

▶ P. Nikolic (2636)

German league

05.02.2012

1. +-

**[15]**

▷ Le Quang Liem (2714)

▶ B. Savchenko (2609)

Aeroflot Open

07.02.2012

1. +-

**[16]**

▷ M. Rodshtein (2634)

▶ Lu Shanglei (2516)

Aeroflot Open

07.02.2012

1. +/-



[17]

▷ D. Khismatullin (2664)

▶ Zhou Jianchao (2619)

Aeroflot Open

08.02.2012

1. +-

**[18]**

▷ F. Caruana (2736)

▶ E. Iturrizaga (2649)

Aeroflot Open

09.02.2012

1. +/-

**[19]**

▷ P. Ponkratov (2611)

▶ K. Grigoryan (2482)

Aeroflot Open

09.02.2012

1... -/+

**[20]**

▷ S. Grigoriants (2570)

▶ Shen Yang (2447)

Aeroflot Open

10.02.2012

1. +/-



[21]

- ▷ F. Caruana (2736)
 ▶ I. Khairullin (2638)

Aeroflot Open

11.02.2012

1. +-

**[22]**

- ▷ D. Dubov (2498)
 ▶ G. Guseinov (2634)

Aeroflot Open

11.02.2012

1. +-

**[23]**

- ▷ A. Jankovic (2568)
 ▶ I. Bukavshin (2517)

Aeroflot Open

14.02.2012

1... =

**[24]**

- ▷ G. Pap (2533)
 ▶ S. Sjogirov (2622)

Aeroflot Open

14.02.2012

1... -+



[25]

▷ V. Akopian (2685)

▶ G. Gajewski (2616)

Aeroflot Open

15.02.2012

1. +-

**[26]**

▷ S. Sjugirov (2622)

▶ K. Sasikiran (2700)

Aeroflot Open

15.02.2012

1... =/+

**[27]**

▷ S. Zhigalko (2658)

▶ Y. Zherebukh (2593)

Aeroflot Open

15.02.2012

1... -+

**[28]**

▷ W. Moranda (2568)

▶ G. Gajewski (2616)

Polish Championship

23.02.2012

1. +/-



[29]

▷ A. Rustemov (2537)

▶ M. Feygin (2521)

German league

25.02.2012

1. +/-

**[30]**

▷ A. Volokitin (2686)

▶ H. Steingrímsson (2562)

German league

25.02.2012

1. +-

**[31]**

▷ D. Abel (2427)

▶ A. Gasthofer (2456)

German league

26.02.2012

1. +-

**[32]**

▷ S. Bogner (2534)

▶ K. Bischoff (2547)

German league

26.02.2012

1. +-



[33]

▷ E. Sutovsky (2696)

▶ A. Finkel (2499)

Israeli league

03.02.2012

1.+ -

**[35]**

▷ T. Likavsky (2486)

▶ V. Jobava (2704)

Austrian league

04.03.2012

1... -/+

**[34]**

▷ Barbosa, Ev (2399)

▶ Z. Andriasian (2616)

Cappelle la Grande Cappelle la Grande FRA

03.03.2012

1... - +

**[36]**

▷ E. Rozentalis (2592)

▶ A. Fauland (2452)

Austrian league

04.03.2012

1. + -



[37]

▷ T. Petrosian (2643)
 ▶ D. Arutinian (2553)
 Cappelle la Grande
 05.03.2012

1. +-

**[38]**

▷ V. Zakhartsov (2563)
 ▶ D. Jojua (2507)
 Cappelle la Grande
 05.03.2012

1. +-

**[39]**

▷ B. Amin (2608)
 ▶ T. Petrosian (2643)
 Cappelle la Grande
 06.03.2012

1. =

**[40]**

▷ E. Janev (2484)
 ▶ And. Sokolov (2577)
 Cappelle la Grande
 06.03.2012

1... -+



[41]

▷ T. Abrahamyan (2322)

▶ I. Kurnosov (2657)

Cappelle la Grande

07.03.2012

1... -+

**[42]**

▷ J. Gunnarsson (2424)

▶ Ro. Hess (2635)

Reykjavik Open

08.03.2012

1... -+

**[43]**

▷ B. Avrukh (2591)

▶ D. Navara (2700)

Reykjavik Open

09.03.2012

1... =/+ / -/+

**[44]**

▷ D. Muse (2388)

▶ H. Teske (2547)

German league

17.03.2012

1... -+



[45]

- ▷ M. Bluebaum (2388)
 ▶ Z. Medvegý (2531)
 German league
 18.03.2012

1. =

**[47]**

- ▷ Iv. Saric (2643)
 ▶ P. Czarnota (2554)
 German league
 18.03.2012

1. +-

**[46]**

- ▷ A. Lauber (2464)
 ▶ K. Landa (2639)
 German league
 18.03.2012

1... -+

**[48]**

- ▷ Y. Zhrebukh (2580)
 ▶ N. Firman (2517)
 German league
 18.03.2012

1. +-



(49)

- ▷ D. Balokas (2080)
 ▶ H. Stefansson (2531)
 European Championship
 20.03.2012

1... -+

**(51)**

- ▷ R. Hovhannisyan (2600)
 ▶ M. Codenotti (2328)
 European Championship
 20.03.2012

1. +-

**(50)**

- ▷ V. Erdos (2631)
 ▶ V. Nedilko (2392)
 European Championship
 20.03.2012

1. +-

**(52)**

- ▷ D. Lomsadze (2338)
 ▶ Z. Kozul (2602)
 European Championship
 20.03.2012

1. +-



(53)

▷ F. Pancevski (2470)
 ► A. Volokitin (2695)
 European Championship
 20.03.2012

1. +-

**(54)**

▷ Z. Kozul (2602)
 ► C. Ali Marandi (2315)
 European Championship
 21.03.2012

1. +-

**(55)**

▷ V. Durarbayli (2543)
 ► I. Smirin (2657)
 European Championship
 22.03.2012

1. +-

**(56)**

▷ B. Macieja (2605)
 ► Al Manea (2381)
 European Championship
 22.03.2012

1. +-



(57)

▷ P. Simacek (2447)
 ► V. Akopian (2684)
 European Championship
 22.03.2012

1... -+

**(58)**

▷ V. Akopian (2684)
 ► Val Popov (2546)
 European Championship
 23.03.2012

1. +-

**(59)**

▷ N. Maiorov (2552)
 ► E. Postny (2662)
 European Championship
 23.03.2012

1... =

**(60)**

▷ T. Nedev (2492)
 ► L. Pantsulaia (2595)
 European Championship
 23.03.2012

1... -+



[61]

▷ F. Vallejo Pons (2693)
 ▶ T. Nabaty (2559)
 European Championship
 23.03.2012

1. +-

**[62]**

▷ A. Giri (2717)
 ▶ F. Holzke (2508)
 European Championship
 24.03.2012

1... -+

**[63]**

▷ M. Mchedlishvili (2626)
 ▶ P. Michalik (2529)
 European Championship
 25.03.2012

1. +-

**[64]**

▷ A. Riazantsev (2710)
 ▶ B. Esen (2555)
 European Championship
 25.03.2012

1. +-



[65]

▷ Iv. Saric (2649)
 ► M. Nikolov (2550)
 European Championship
 25.03.2012

1. +-

**[67]**

▷ I. Sokolov (2653)
 ► V. Nevednichy (2562)
 European Championship
 27.03.2012

1. +-

**[66]**

▷ H. Gabuzyan (2441)
 ► B. Damljanovic (2582)
 European Championship
 27.03.2012

1. +-

**[68]**

▷ A. Mastrovasilis (2510)
 ► I. Salgado Lopez (2621)
 European Championship
 28.03.2012

1. +/-



[69]

- ▷ E. Safarli (2645)
 ▶ V. Durarbayli (2543)
 European Championship
 28.03.2012

1. -/+

**[70]**

- ▷ M. Yilmaz (2530)
 ▶ Bo. Vuckovic (2628)
 European Championship
 28.03.2012

1. -/+

**[71]**

- ▷ A. Boruchvsky (2333)
 ▶ H. Stefansson (2531)
 European Championship
 29.03.2012

1. +-

**[72]**

- ▷ L. Lenic (2637)
 ▶ V. Neverov (2544)
 European Championship
 29.03.2012

1. +-



(73)

▷ G. Szabo (2553)
 ▶ A. Petrisor (2383)
 European Championship
 29.03.2012

1... -+

**(74)**

▷ A. Korobov (2679)
 ▶ Bo. Vuckovic (2628)
 European Championship
 30.03.2012

1. +-

**(75)**

▷ Y. Kuzubov (2615)
 ▶ S. Azarov (2667)
 European Championship
 30.03.2012

1... -+

**(76)**

▷ L'E. Ami (2611)
 ▶ Y. Kryvoruchko (2666)
 European Championship
 30.03.2012

1... -+



(77)

▷ Arte Smirnov (2436)
 ▶ J. Radulski (2552)
 European Championship
 30.03.2012

1. +-

**(78)**

▷ Z. Kozul (2602)
 ▶ F. Pancevski (2470)
 European Championship
 31.03.2012

1. +-

**(79)**

▷ Y. Kryvoruchko (2666)
 ▶ F. Caruana (2767)
 European Championship
 31.03.2012

1. +/-

**(80)**

▷ L. D. Nisipeanu (2643)
 ▶ S. Azaladze (2419)
 European Championship
 31.03.2012

1. +-



[81]

- ▷ Wang Yue (2702)
 ► Bu Xiangzhi (2668)

Xinghua

02.04.2012

1. +-

**[83]**

- ▷ Li Shilong (2549)
 ► Bu Xiangzhi (2668)

Xinghua

04.04.2012

1...-/+

**[82]**

- ▷ G. Gopal (2572)
 ► T. Baron (2497)

India-Israel rapid match

03.04.2012

1. +-

**[84]**

- ▷ D. Baramidze (2612)
 ► N. Grandadam (2361)

Deizisau

09.04.2012

1. +/-



[85]

- ▷ T. Burg (2464)
 ▶ K. Bischoff (2521)

Deizisau

09.04.2012

1... -+

**[86]**

- ▷ A. Motylev (2683)
 ▶ J. Geller (2544)

Russian league

09.04.2012

1. +-
**[87]**

- ▷ I. Ibragimov (2539)
 ▶ B. Savchenko (2580)

Russian league

11.04.2012

1... -+

**[88]**

- ▷ G. Margvelashvili (2547)
 ▶ B. Finegold (2505)

Saint Louis

11.04.2012

1. +-


[89]

- ▷ P. Svidler (2744)
 ▶ D. Jakovenko (2729)

Russian league

11.04.2012

1... -+

**[91]**

- ▷ P. Eljanov (2704)
 ▶ S. Movsesian (2702)

Russian league

13.04.2012

1... -/+

**[90]**

- ▷ M. Matlakov (2632)
 ▶ D. Khismatullin (2656)

Russian league

12.04.2012

1. +- **[92]**

- ▷ B. Grachev (2705)
 ▶ A. Poluljahov (2505)

Russian league

13.04.2012

1. +- 

[93]

- ▷ P. Svidler (2744)
 ▶ A. Morozevich (2765)

Russian league

13.04.2012

1... =

**[94]**

- ▷ P. Schlosser (2591)
 ▶ L. Vogt (2410)

German league

14.04.2012

1. +/-

**[95]**

- ▷ Z. Abdumalik (2137)
 ▶ Z. Andriasian (2616)

Dubai Open

15.04.2012

1... -+

**[96]**

- ▷ J. Gustafsson (2642)
 ▶ M. Venkatesh (2509)

Bangkok Open

15.04.2012

1... -+



[97]

▷ S. Karjakin (2766)

▶ D. Kokarev (2637)

Russian league

15.04.2012

1. +-

**[99]**

▷ S. Vysochin (2550)

▶ V. Grinev (2404)

Nabokov memorial

19.04.2012

1. +-

**[98]**

▷ I. Morovic Fernandez (2577)

▶ Mat Latorre (2252)

Iberoamericano Championship

15.04.2012

1. +/-

**[100]**

▷ V. Belous (2524)

▶ A. Predke (2461)

Sochi

21.04.2012

1. +/-



(101)

▷ S. Bromberger (2513)

▶ T. Likavsky (2486)

Austrian league

21.04.2012

1. +-

**(103)**

▷ V. Baklan (2612)

▶ T. Sachdev (2414)

Dubai Open

23.04.2012

1. +-

**(102)**

▷ L. Thiede (2458)

▶ S. Siebrecht (2468)

Austrian league

22.04.2012

1... -+

**(104)**

▷ S. Vaibhav (2494)

▶ S. Maze (2577)

Lille Open

25.04.2012

1. +-



[105]

▷ I. Bukavshin (2504)

▶ V. Fedoseev (2548)

Sochi

26.04.2012

1. +-

**[107]**

▷ V. Babula (2572)

▶ M. Grunberg (2420)

Austrian league

29.04.2012

1. +-

**[106]**

▷ R. Antoniewski (2559)

▶ M. Olszewski (2539)

Italian league

28.04.2012

1. +-

**[108]**

▷ A. Czebe (2477)

▶ S> Arun Prasad (2517)

Melaka Open

29.04.2012

1. +-



[109]

▷ Z. Mammadov (2378)

► G. Guseinov (2616)

Nakhchivan Open

29.04.2012

1... -+



– SOLUTIONS –

(1)

- ▷ L. Babujian (2474)
 ▶ Ter S. Sahakyan (2569)
 Armenian Championship
 22.01.2012

11... ♖d2+! 12. ♖xd2 cxd2+ 13. ♖xd2
 ♜e4+ 14. ♖e1 ♜xg5+-

(2)

- ▷ A. Motylev (2677)
 ▶ D. Vocaturo (2545)
 Wijk aan Zee
 22.01.2012

31.e6! f5 [31...fxe6 32. ♖xg4+-; 31...
 ♜xe3 32.exf7++-] 32. ♜xf5! gxf5 [32...
 ♜xe3 33. ♜xe7+ ♜xe7 34. ♖xe3+-]
 33. ♜g3! 34. ♖xf5 threats. 33... ♜e5
 [33... ♜f8 34. ♖g5+-] 34. ♖xe5+-

(3)

- ▷ Alvarez J. Marquez (2398)
 ▶ V. Bologan (2680)
 Gibraltar
 24.01.2012

17. ♜d5! ♜f7 [17...exd5 18. ♜xe7+-]
 18. ♜xe7+ ♜xe7 19. ♜d4± [It was even
 better to play 19. ♜b1! ♖f8 20. ♜xe7
 ♖xe7 21. ♖d2± with an exchange up.]

(4)

- ▷ V. Erdos (2634)
 ▶ T. Coleman (2536)
 Gibraltar
 24.01.2012

20.e5! ♖xe5 [20... ♜xe5 21. ♜f4 ♜d6
 22. ♜xd6! ♖xd6 23. ♜xb7+-] 21. ♜xb7
 ♜c6 22. ♜xc8 ♜xc8 23. ♜ac1+-

(5)

- ▷ R. Felgaer (2571)
 ▶ A. Oberhofer (2299)
 Gibraltar
 24.01.2012

33. ♜xe8! [33. ♖xe8 ♜xe8 34. ♜xe8±]
 33... ♜xe5 [33... ♜xd7 34. ♜xg7!+-
 Traps the queen.] 34. ♖d5!+-

(6)

- ▷ E. Lund (2414)
 ▶ S. Movsesian (2700)
 Gibraltar
 24.01.2012

34... ♜e4! 35. ♜xg7 ♜xf2 36. ♖xf5
 [36. ♖xf2 ♜xg7+-] 36... ♜xg7
 37. ♖e6+ ♖h7 38. ♖f5+ ♖h8+-

(7)

- ▷ M. Parligras (2650)
 ▶ F. El Debs (2497)
 Gibraltar
 25.01.2012

22. ♜xg7! [22. ♜xh6? ♜f6] 22...
 ♖xg7 23. ♖xh6+ ♖g8 24. ♖g6+
 ♖h8 25. ♜c3+ 1-0 [25. ♜c3+ ♜f6
 26. ♜xf6+ ♜xf6 27. ♖xf6+ ♖g7 (27...
 ♖h7 28. ♜e1+-) 28. ♖xg7+ ♖xg7
 29. ♜xh2+-]

(8)

▷ J. Gallagher (2505)

► C. Allor (2145)

Gibraltar

27.01.2012

28. ♖xd6! ♖xd6 29. ♜xb7+ ♔a8
 30. ♜d7+ ♖c6 31. ♙xc6+ ♜xc6
 32. ♜xf7+-

(9)

▷ M. Adams (2724)

► D. Howell (2603)

Gibraltar

30.01.2012

111. ♜c8! ♙g8 112. ♜c7+ ♙f7 113. ♜xf7+
 ♙g8 114. ♜g7+ ♙f8 115. hxc4 1-0

(10)

▷ G. Sargissian (2683)

► R. Valhondo Morales (2046)

Gibraltar

30.01.2012

The last move of Black was 39...g2??, he wanted to win the game instead of giving perpetual check with 39... ♖h3+. 40. ♖g3! ♜xg3 41. ♖e8+ ♙h7 42. ♖f7+ ♙h6 43. ♖f6+! ♖g6 [43... ♜g6 44. ♖h4+ ♖h5 45. d5+-] 44. ♖xf5+-

(11)

▷ A. Shirov (2710)

► T. Baron (2498)

Gibraltar

30.01.2012

42. ♜xf6+! 1-0 [42. ♜xf6+ ♜xf6
 43. e5+! ♙xe5 44. c7+-]

(12)

▷ F. Bindrich (2548)

► W. Uhlmann (2379)

German league

04.02.2012

34. ♜xc5! ♖g1 The game finished after mutual blunders. [34... ♖xc5 35. ♙xg6! ♜e7 36. ♙f5+ ♙f8 (36... ♙h8 37. ♙e6+-) 37. ♙e6! ♜c7 38. ♖g8+ ♙e7 39. ♙g4+-] 35. f4? [35. ♙d5+! was the „correct” way to win 35... ♙h8 36. ♖h4! ♖f1+ 37. ♙g4 f5+ 38. ♙g5+-] 35... f5? [35... ♖xc5! 36. ♙xg6 ♜e7! 37. ♙f5+ ♙f8 38. ♙e6 ♜a7∞] 36. ♙d5+ 1-0

(13)

▷ P. Hoffmann (2317)

► L. Vogt (2410)

German league

04.02.2012

19. ♖g6! 1-0 [19. ♖g6 ♖c7 20. ♖b5+-]

(14)

▷ V. Klyuner (2428)

► P. Nikolic (2636)

German league

05.02.2012

69. ♖e2! [But not 69. ♖f3?? ♖a2+ 70. ♙f1 ♖b1+ 71. ♙f2 ♖xg6+-] 69... ♖a2 [69... ♖d2 70. e4! transposes to the game] 70. e4! Prepares for 71. ♙f3 or 71. ♙e3. 70... ♖c2 71. ♙e3! 1-0 Mate is coming on g1.

[15]

▷ Le Quang Liem (2714)

► B. Savchenko (2609)

Aeroflot Open

07.02.2012

25. ♖xe6! [25. ♖h5 ♖f8 26. ♕e4±]
 25...g6 [25...fxe6 26. ♖xe6+ ♖h8 (26...
 ♖f8 27. ♕d5+-) 27. ♖c8+-] 26. ♖c4!
 With the threat of ♖c8+! 26...h6 [26...
 fxe6 27. ♖xe6+ ♖f8 28. ♕d5+-; 26...
 ♖e7



27. ♖c8+! ♖e8 28. ♖c3! ♖a2 29. ♖c7+-
] 27. ♖c7! ♖b4 [27... ♖c8 28. e6+-]
 28. ♖c2 ♖d8 29. e6+-

[16]

▷ M. Rodshtein (2634)

► Lu Shanglei (2516)

Aeroflot Open

07.02.2012

10.f4! Black has fallen into an opening trap, he cannot prevent g4. 10...
 ♕g6 [10...h6 11. ♕xf6 ♕xf6 12. g4±;
 10... ♖e4 11. ♕xe7 ♖xe7 12. ♕xe4 dxe4
 13. g4 ♕g6 14. f5+-] 11.f5 ♕h5 12. ♕f4!
 [12. g4 ♖xg4 13. ♕xe7 ♖xe7 14. hxg4
 ♕xg4 15. ♖d2±] 12...g6 13. g4+-

[17]

▷ D. Khismatullin (2664)

► Zhou Jianchao (2619)

Aeroflot Open

08.02.2012

31. ♖xh7+! [31. ♖e3 ♖f6+-] 31... ♖xh7
 32. ♖xh7+ ♖g8 33. g7! 1-0

[18]

▷ F. Caruana (2736)

► E. Iturrizaga (2649)

Aeroflot Open

09.02.2012

37. c5+! ♖xc5 38. ♖c2! ♖b5 39. ♖c6+
 ♖xc6 40. ♕xc6 ♖xc6 41. ♖xe6+
 ♖b5 42. ♖c4+ ♖b6 43. ♖xb4+ ♖c6
 44. ♖c4+ ♖d6 45. ♖d3± [45. b4+-]

[19]

▷ P. Ponkratov (2611)

► K. Grigoryan (2482)

Aeroflot Open

09.02.2012

40... ♖g2+! 41. ♕xg2 hxg2+ 42. ♖xg2
 ♖h3+ 43. ♖g1 ♖g4+ 44. ♖h2 ♖xd1±

[20]

▷ S. Grigoriants (2570)

► Shen Yang (2447)

Aeroflot Open

10.02.2012

19. ♖f7! ♖g8 20. ♖d8+! ♖xd8
 [20... ♖a7 21. ♖xe6+-] 21. ♖xd8 g5
 22. ♖b5+-

(21)

▷ F. Caruana (2736)
 ▶ I. Khairullin (2638)
 Aeroflot Open
 11.02.2012

35. ♖c7+!! ♜d7 [35... ♜xc7 36. ♜xd6+!
 ♜xd6 37. ♜xd6#; 35... ♜xc7 36. ♜xd6+
 ♜xd6 37. ♜xd6#] 36. ♜xe8 ♜xe8
 37. ♜xd6+ ♜f8 38. bxa4+-

(22)

▷ D. Dubov (2498)
 ▶ G. Guseinov (2634)
 Aeroflot Open
 11.02.2012

36. ♜xf5! ♜e5 [36... ♜xf4 37. ♜g6!+-
 (37. ♜xe7+ ♜xe7 38. ♜xf4+-)]
 37. ♜g4 [The textmove and 37. ♜h4!?
 are equally strong, but this was much
 easier to find 37... ♜xf4 38. ♜g6 ♜g7
 39. ♜xf4+-] 37... ♜df6 [37... ♜xf4
 38. ♜xf4 ♜xf5 39. ♜xe4+-]



38. ♜xe4! ♜xe4 [38... ♜xe4 39. f4!+-
] 39. ♜h3! ♜xc1 40. ♜xc1+- h5?!
 41. ♜g5+ ♜f7 42. ♜xd6+ 1-0

(23)

▷ A. Jankovic (2568)
 ▶ I. Bukavshin (2517)
 Aeroflot Open
 14.02.2012

59... ♜e6! [59... ♜g6!? also holds
 the draw, but requires some addi-
 tional exact moves 60. ♜d4!? ♜xf3+
 61. ♜g2 (61. ♜h2 ♜3f4! 62. ♜xg6 ♜xd4
 63. ♜xh6+ ♜g8 64. ♜hg6+ ♜h7
 65. ♜xg5 ♜d2+ 66. ♜g3 ♜d3+ 67. ♜h4
 ♜ff3!) 61... ♜3f4! (61... ♜h4+ 62. ♜h2+-
) 62. ♜e3 (62. ♜xg6 ♜xd4 63. ♜xh6+
 ♜g8 64. ♜hg6+ ♜h7 65. ♜xg5 ♜d2+
 66. ♜g3 ♜d3+ 67. ♜h4 ♜ff3!)=) 62...
 ♜e4 63. ♜xg6 ♜xe3 64. ♜xh6+ ♜g8
 65. ♜hg6+ ♜h7 66. ♜xg5 ♜e2+ 67. ♜g3
 ♜e3+ 68. ♜h4 ♜ff3=] 60. ♜g2 ♜xf3
 61. ♜b7+ [61. ♜xe6 ♜f2+ 62. ♜g1 ♜f1+
 63. ♜g2 ♜1f2+=] 61... ♜g8 62. ♜xe6
 ♜f2+ 63. ♜g1 ♜f1+ 64. ♜g2 ♜1f2+
 65. ♜g1 ♜f1+ 1/2-1/2

(24)

▷ G. Pap (2533)
 ▶ S. Sjogirov (2622)
 Aeroflot Open
 14.02.2012

37... e4! 38. a6 [38. fxe4 ♜g4+ 39. ♜h2
 fxg3+ 40. ♜h1 ♜xh4+-+; 38. gxf4
 exf3+-] 38... ♜xa6 [38... exf3!? 39. a7
 fxg2 40. a8Q+ ♜f7 41. ♜c8 ♜f3+-]
 39. gxf4 ♜e2+-

[25]

▷ V. Akopian (2685)

► G. Gajewski (2616)

Aeroflot Open

15.02.2012

38. ♖xf5! ♜d8 [38... ♜xc6 39. ♖h6+ ♕e7 40. ♜xf8 ♕xd7 41. ♖g4+-] 39. ♖e3+! ♕e6 40. b5! ♕d6 41. ♖xc4+ ♕c5 42. ♖xe5 ♕xb5 43. a3 [43. ♜c1+-] 43... ♕c5 44. ♜d1 1-0

[26]

▷ S. Sjogirov (2622)

► K. Sasikiran (2700)

Aeroflot Open

15.02.2012

26... ♜xh4! 27. ♜xh4 ♙xg5 28. ♜he4! ♙xe3+ [28... d5 29. f4 dxe4 30. fxg5 ♜e8 31. ♙d4=] 29. ♜xe3 ♙a6! 30. ♜e7 ♙xc4 31. ♙xc4 ♖xc4 32. ♜xd7 [32. ♜xh7 d6f] 32... h5= /-+/, Black eventually managed to win the game.

[27]

▷ S. Zhigalko (2658)

► Y. Zharebukh (2593)

Aeroflot Open

15.02.2012

28... ♖d2! 0-1 [28... ♖d2 29. ♜e1 ♜c1+- (29... ♖xb1 30. ♜xb1 ♖f5+-)]

[28]

▷ W. Moranda (2568)

► G. Gajewski (2616)

Polish Championship

23.02.2012

16. ♖c4! Black cannot save his d5 pawn. 16... a4 [16... ♜e8 17. ♖xb6 ♜xb6 18. ♖xd5 ♖xd5 19. ♙xd5 ♙xd5 20. ♜xd5±; 16... ♖a8 17. ♖xd5! ♖xd5 18. ♙xd5 ♙xd5 19. e4+-] 17. ♖xb6 ♜xb6 18. ♖xd5 ♖xd5 19. ♙xd5 ♙xd5 20. ♜xd5 axb3 21. axb3±

[29]

▷ A. Rustemov (2537)

► M. Feygin (2521)

German league

25.02.2012

32. ♖f6! ♜xf6 [32... ♙xf6 would have been the only move 33. ♙xf6+ ♕g8 34. ♜e3!± with a clear advantage; 32... ♜xe7? 33. ♜xh7#] 33. ♙xf6 ♜f8 34. ♙xf5! ♙xf6 35. ♙xe6 ♜g7 [35... ♖xe6 36. ♜xf6+-; 35... ♙xh4 36. ♜xf8+ ♕g7 37. ♙xd7 ♙xe1 38. ♜b8 ♙xa5 39. ♜xb7+-] 36. ♜h3+- [36. ♜f4!+- was even easier.]

[30]

▷ A. Volokitin (2686)

► H. Steingrimsen (2562)

German league

25.02.2012

25. ♖b6! ♕xb6 26. ♜xd8 ♕a7 27. ♖d5 c6 28. ♕f4! cxd5 29. ♕xe5+- d4 30. g5 e3 31. f6 gxf6+ 32. gxf6 1-0

[31]

▷ D. Abel (2427)

► A. Gasthofer (2456)

German league

26.02.2012

51. ♜d4! 1-0

[32]

- ▷ S. Bogner (2534)
▶ K. Bischoff (2547)

German league

26.02.2012

30. ♖h6! [30. ♜c2±] 30... ♜xf4
31. ♖xf7+ ♜g7 32. exf4 ♜xf7 33. ♜e3!
1-0 [33. ♜e3 ♜c8 34. ♜c2+-; 33. ♜c2
♜d3]

[33]

- ▷ E. Sutovsky (2696)
▶ A. Finkel (2499)

Israeli league

03.02.2012

21. ♜xe7+! ♖xe7 22. ♜xe7+ ♜b8
23. ♜a3!! 1-0

[34]

- ▷ Ev Barbosa (2399)
▶ Z. Andriasian (2616)

Cappelle la Grande Cappelle
la Grande FRA

03.03.2012

20... ♜xb2+! [20... c3 21. ♖xc3 ♜b8!-
+] 21. ♜xb2 ♜b8+ 22. ♜a2 ♖b4+!
23. ♜xb4 [23. ♜b2 ♖d3+ 24. ♜a2
♜b2+ 25. ♜a1 ♜xa3#] 23... ♜xb4
24. ♜d2 ♜hb8 0-1

[35]

- ▷ T. Likavsky (2486)
▶ V. Jobava (2704)

Austrian league

04.03.2012

25... ♜e4! 26. ♜c3 [26. ♜d1 was better
chance, but still Black wins a pawn af-

ter 26... ♖h2+! 27. ♜e1 ♜xc2 28. ♜xc2
♖f3+ 29. ♜e2 (29. ♜d1 ♜h4+-) 29...
♖g1+⌞] 26... ♜xc2 27. ♜xc2 ♜h4!
28. ♜e2 ♜xh3 29. ♜e4 ♖h2!-+

[36]

- ▷ E. Rozentalis (2592)
▶ A. Fauland (2452)

Austrian league

04.03.2012

25. ♜d3! ♜e1+ [25... ♜g8 26. ♜f3+-]
26. ♜c2 g5 27. ♜f5+ ♜g8 28. ♜e6+
♜f8 29. ♜h3 1-0

[37]

- ▷ T. Petrosian (2643)
▶ D. Arutinian (2553)

Cappelle la Grande

05.03.2012

55. ♖xe5+! ♖xe5+ 56. ♜f4 ♜d5 [56...
♖f7 57. ♜xf5+-] 57. ♜xf5 ♜d6 58. h5!
[58. ♜f6? ♖g4+ 59. ♜g5 ♖e5 60. h5
♜e6=] 58... ♖f7 59. ♜f6 ♖h6 [59...
♖e5 60. h6+-] 60. ♜g6! ♖g4 61. h6
♜e7 62. h7 ♖e5+ 63. ♜g7 ♖f7 64. g4!
1-0 [64. h8Q? ♖xh8 65. ♜xh8 ♜f6=]

[38]

- ▷ V. Zakhartsov (2563)
▶ D. Jojua (2507)

Cappelle la Grande

05.03.2012

46. ♖xg6! ♜b2+ [46... fxg6
47. ♜xc4!+- is the point!] 47. ♜xb2
♖xb2 48. ♖f4+-

[39]

▷ B. Amin (2608)

► T. Petrosian (2643)

Cappelle la Grande

06.03.2012

37. ♖xc7+! ♙xc7 38. ♙c5+ ♔e6
39. ♙xb4=

[40]

▷ E. Janev (2484)

► And. Sokolov (2577)

Cappelle la Grande

06.03.2012

33... ♖xf2! 34. ♖xb2 [34. ♙xf2 ♖xf2
35... ♖g6 threats 35.h5 ♖f4+! 36. ♙g1
♖e5!-+] 34... ♖xb2-+

[41]

▷ T. Abrahamyan (2322)

► I. Kurnosov (2657)

Cappelle la Grande

07.03.2012

34... ♖xe4! 0-1 [34... ♖xe4 35.fxe4
♖g1+ 36. ♖e1 ♖xg4-+]

[42]

▷ J. Gunnarsson (2424)

► Ro. Hess (2635)

Reykjavik Open

08.03.2012

27... ♖xb1! 28. ♖xb1 ♖a2! 0-1 [28... ♖a2
29. ♖bd1 ♖xd2! 30. ♖xd2 ♙xe4-+]

[43]

▷ B. Avrukh (2591)

► D. Navara (2700)

Reykjvaik Open

09.03.2012

23... ♖xe4! 24. ♖xe4 ♖xd1 25. ♖d4
[25. ♖xc4? ♖d5+-+] 25... ♖h5!
26. ♖e1 [26.f5 ♖xf5! This had to be
foreseen, otherwise ♖h4 is crushing.
27. ♖xf5 ♖e3+ 28. ♙f3 ♖xf5+] 26...
♖f5 27. ♙h4 [27. ♖e7 ♖e3+! 28. ♖xe3
♖xf6+] 27...b5+

[44]

▷ D. Muse (2388)

► H. Teske (2547)

German league

17.03.2012

37...c5! 38.bxc5 b4! 39.c6 ♙e7! 40.c7
♙d7 0-1

[45]

▷ M. Bluebaum (2388)

► Z. Medvegy (2531)

German league

18.03.2012

108. ♖b1+! ♙f2 [108... ♖f1+ leads to
drawn pawn endgame 109. ♖xf1+
♙xf1 110.g4! hxg4+ (110...e4 111.gxh5=)
111. ♙xg4=] 109. ♖f5+ ♖f3 110. ♖c2+
♙e1 111. ♖c1+ ♙e2 112. ♖c2+ ♙e3
113. ♖c3+ ♙e4 114. ♖c6+ ♙e3 115.
♖c3+ 1/2-1/2

[46]

▷ A. Lauber (2464)

► K. Landa (2639)

German league

18.03.2012

18...b5! 19. ♙xg7 [19. ♖c3 ♖xe5-+]
19...bxa4-+

(47)

- Iv. Saric (2643)
► P. Czarnota (2554)

German league

18.03.2012

23. ♖f4!! with the idea of ♔a4.
23... ♖c6 24. ♜ee5! 1-o[24. ♜ee5
♖b6 (24... ♔d6 25. ♔a4+-) 25. ♜xc5
♜xc5 26. ♜xc5 ♖xc5 27. ♖b8+ ♔d7
28. ♔a4+-]

(48)

- Y. Zharebukh (2580)
► N. Firman (2517)

German league

18.03.2012

27. ♖xf6! 1-o[27. ♖xf6 gxf6 28. ♔xf6+
♙g8 29. ♜g4+-]

(49)

- D. Balokas (2080)
► H. Stefansson (2531)

European Championship

20.03.2012

21... ♔xf2! [21... ♜xf2! is just a trans-
position 22. ♜xf2 ♔xf2 23. ♙xf2 (23.
♔xb7 ♜xe2!/-+)] 22. ♜xf2 ♜xf2
23. ♙xf2 ♔xg2-+

(50)

- V. Erdos (2631)
► V. Nedilko (2392)

European Championship

20.03.2012

26. ♜xd7! ♖xd7 27. ♔b6 ♖e7 [27...
♖b7 28. ♔xa8 ♜f8 29. bxc5 ♖xa8
30. e6+-] 28. ♔xa8 ♜f8 [28... ♔a7

29. e6! ♖xe6 (29... fxe6 30. ♔c7!)
30. ♔c7 ♖xe4+ 31. ♖f3+-] 29. ♔b6+-

(51)

- R. Hovhannisyan (2600)
► M. Codenotti (2328)

European Championship

20.03.2012

23. fxe6! fxe6 24. ♔xe6! ♜xe6
25. ♔xd5 ♜ae8 26. ♔xe6+ 1-o[26.
♔xe6+ ♜xe6 27. ♜d8+ ♙f7 28. ♖f4+
♙e7 (28... ♙g6 29. ♖f5+ ♙h6 30. ♖h5#)
29. ♖f8#]

(52)

- D. Lomsadze (2338)
► Z. Kozul (2602)

European Championship

20.03.2012

54. ♜b6! ♙e5 55. ♜xd6! ♙xd6 56. ♙g3
♙c7 57. ♙h4 ♙d6 58. ♙h5 ♙e7 59. g5
♙f7 60. g6+ ♙g7 61. ♙g5 1-o

(53)

- F. Pancevski (2470)
► A. Volokitin (2695)

European Championship

20.03.2012

41. ♔xd6! ♔b7 [41... ♖xd6 42. ♖xf7+
♙h8 43. ♜e7+-] 42. ♔e7 ♜f8 43. ♔f6+
♙g8 44. ♖xh4 ♔xf6 45. gxf6 1-o

(54)

- ▷ Z. Kozul (2602)
 ► C. Ali Marandi (2315)
 European Championship
 21.03.2012

19. ♖xe6! [19. ♗xe6 fxe6 20. ♖xe6 ♗f4+ 21. ♖b1 ♗f6±] 19... fxe6 20. ♖xe6 ♗f4+ 21. ♖b1 b5 22. ♗a2 b4 [22... ♖h8 23. ♗e5+-] 23. axb4 ♖h8 24. ♗e5+-

(55)

- ▷ V. Durarbayli (2543)
 ► I. Smirin (2657)
 European Championship
 22.03.2012

34. d7! ♗f5 [34... ♖g7 35. ♗e5+-; 34... ♗xd7 35. ♗d5+- (35. ♖xf7+-)] 35. ♗g5 1-0

(56)

- ▷ B. Macieja (2605)
 ► Al. Manea (2381)
 European Championship
 22.03.2012

15. ♗xh7+! ♖xh7 16. ♗xf8 1-0

(57)

- ▷ P. Simacek (2447)
 ► V. Akopian (2684)
 European Championship
 22.03.2012

30... ♗d4! 31. ♖xd4 ♗xe2+ 32. ♗xe2 ♖xd4 33. ♗xe6 ♖d6! 34. ♗c5 ♗d8!-+

(58)

- ▷ V. Akopian (2684)
 ► Val. Popov (2546)
 European Championship
 23.03.2012

28. ♗h5! 1-0 [28. ♗h5 ♗xf5 29. ♖e7+ ♖g8 30. ♗f7+ ♖h8 31. ♗g7#]

(59)

- ▷ N. Maiorov (2552)
 ► E. Postny (2662)
 European Championship
 23.03.2012

24... ♗xf3! [24... ♗xh2! leads to the same perpetual check 25. ♖xe2 ♗xf3! 26. gxf3 ♗h1+=] 25. gxf3 ♗xh2 26. ♖xe2 ♗h1+ 27. ♖f2 ♗h2+ 28. ♖f1 ♗h1+ 29. ♖f2 ♗h2+ 1/2-1/2

(60)

- ▷ T. Nedev (2492)
 ► L. Pantsulaia (2595)
 European Championship
 23.03.2012

29... ♗xf2! 0-1 [29... ♗xf2 30. ♖fxf2 ♖xc2! 31. ♖xc2 ♖d1#]

(61)

- ▷ F. Vallejo Pons (2693)
 ► T. Nabaty (2559)
 European Championship
 23.03.2012

21. f3+! ♖d3 [21... ♖xd5 22. ♖d6#] 22. ♖d1+ ♖c2 23. ♖d2+ ♖b1 24. ♗c3+ ♖a1 25. a4! 1-0 With an incredible final position!

**(62)**

- ▷ A. Giri (2717)
 ► F. Holzke (2508)
 European Championship
 24.03.2012

27...♖c5! 28.♔g2 [28.♔xb4 ♔h3+-+] 28...♜xd1+ 29.♜xd1 ♔xf5-+

(63)

- ▷ M. Mchedlishvili (2626)
 ► P. Michalik (2529)
 European Championship
 25.03.2012

27.♜h3! 1-o [27.♜h3 ♜xh3 28.♔f6+ ♘h7 29.♔g7#]

(64)

- ▷ A. Riazantsev (2710)
 ► B. Esen (2555)
 European Championship
 25.03.2012

50.♙e6! 1-o

(65)

- ▷ Iv. Saric (2649)
 ► M. Nikolov (2550)
 European Championship
 25.03.2012

12.b4! ♘xb4 13.♘b3! ♔a4 14.cxb4 ♔xb4+ 15.♔d2+-

(66)

- ▷ H. Gabuzyan (2441)
 ► B. Damjanovic (2582)
 European Championship
 27.03.2012

24.♘f5! [24.♘c6! is exactly the same.] 24...♔xe3 25.♘e7+! ♘f8 26.fxe3! ♘ac4 [26...♘e7 27.♙xa5+-] 27.bxc4 ♘xe7 28.c5! dxc5 29.d6+! ♘f8 30.♘xc5 ♜d8 31.♘b7! ♜b8 32.♜c7+-

(67)

- ▷ I. Sokolov (2653)
 ► V. Nevednichy (2562)
 European Championship
 27.03.2012

26.♘exf7! [26.♘xg6! fxg6 27.♔xg6 ♜f6 transposes to the game(27...♘f6 28.♙d6!! exd6 29.♜e7+-)] 26...♜xf7 27.♔xg6 ♜f6 28.♔h7+ ♘f8 29.♙e5!+- ♙c8 30.♙xf6 exf6 31.♔g6 1-o

[68]

▷ A. Mastrovasilis (2510)

► I. Salgado Lopez (2621)

European Championship

28.03.2012

13. ♖d7! ♜g6 [13... ♙xd7 14. ♕xh7+!
 ♜xh7 (14... ♜h8 15. ♕f5+-)
 15. ♙xd7+-] 14. ♜xf8 ♜xf8 15. ♕d2±

[69]

▷ E. Safarli (2645)

► V. Durarbayli (2543)

European Championship

28.03.2012

27... ♜c5! [27... ♜c6? 28. axb6! axb6
 (28... ♜xb5?? 29. b7!) 29. ♜b3=] 28. ♜b3
 [28. ♜xc5 bxc5! 29. ♜e2 ♜c6 30. ♜d3
 ♜b5-+] 28... ♜xa5±

[70]

▷ M. Yilmaz (2530)

► Bo Vuckovic (2628)

European Championship

28.03.2012

31... ♕h6! 32. ♜xd4 ♜xe5!±

[71]

▷ A. Boruchvsky (2333)

► H. Stefansson (2531)

European Championship

29.03.2012

We could have expected some sacrifices on the kingside, but the solution is on the other side of the board.

22. ♜a2!+-

[72]

▷ L. Lenic (2637)

► V. Neverov (2544)

European Championship

29.03.2012

32. ♜xg7+! ♙xg7 [32... ♜xg7 33. ♜g1+
 ♜f8 (33... ♜h7 34. ♙g6+ ♜h8
 35. ♙g8#) 34. ♙c8+ ♜e7 35. ♙xc7+
 ♜e8 36. ♙c8+ ♜e7 37. ♙e6+ ♜d8
 38. ♕a5+-] 33. ♜g1+-

[73]

▷ G. Szabo (2553)

► A. Petrisor (2383)

European Championship

29.03.2012

28... ♙xd4+! 0-1 [28... ♙xd4+ 29. ♜h1
 ♙xd1+! 30. ♕xd1 ♜f1#; 28... ♕xd4+?
 29. ♜h1]

[74]

▷ A. Korobov (2679)

► Bo Vuckovic (2628)

European Championship

30.03.2012

37. ♜xh7+! ♜xh7 38. ♜h4+! ♜xh4
 39. ♙xd6 With the doublethreat of
 ♙xf8 and ♕e4+ 39... ♜xd5 40. ♙xf8
 1-0

[75]

▷ Y. Kuzubov (2615)

► S. Azarov (2667)

European Championship

30.03.2012

51... ♜e3! 52. ♕b6+ ♜e2 0-1

[76]

▷ L'E. Ami (2611)
 ▶ Y. Kryvoruchko (2666)
 European Championship
 30.03.2012

30... ♖e4+! 31. ♖h2 ♖d5! 0-1

[77]

▷ Arte Smirnov (2436)
 ▶ J. Radulski (2552)
 European Championship
 30.03.2012

26. ♖xe5! ♙xd1 27. ♖xc6! 1-0 [27.
 ♖xc6 ♖e8 28. ♖d4!+-]

[78]

▷ Z. Kozul (2602)
 ▶ F. Pancevski (2470)
 European Championship
 31.03.2012

38.b7! ♖5b6 [38... ♖c5 39. ♖xc5 dxc5
 40. ♖xc5+-; 38... ♖xb7 39. ♖c8+ ♖f7
 40. ♖g5#] 39. ♖c7! Zugzwang, since
 the only possible move ♖f7 runs
 into ♙xb6 ♖xb6 ♖d4! 39...h6 [39...
 ♖f7 40. ♙xb6 ♖xb6 41. ♖d4 ♖d5
 42. ♖c6! ♖xc7 43. ♖xb8+-] 40. ♖h2
 ♖d5 41. ♖c8+ ♖f7 42. ♖d8+! 1-0
 ♖c6+ is the next.

[79]

▷ Y. Kryvoruchko (2666)
 ▶ F. Caruana (2767)
 European Championship
 31.03.2012

24. ♙xf7+! ♖g7 [24... ♖xf7 25. ♙xf4
 ♙xf2 (25... ♖xf4? 26. ♖d5+-)]

26. ♖f1±; 24... ♖xf7 25. ♙xf4± ♖xf4?
 26. ♖d5+-] 25. ♙d5?! [25. ♙b3!±
 would have given big advantage!]
 25... ♖xd5 26. ♖xd5 ♖a5!± Black was
 close to equalize, but eventually he
 lost the game.

[80]

▷ L. D. Nisipeanu (2643)
 ▶ S. Azaladze (2419)
 European Championship
 31.03.2012

36.f6!+- 1-0 Picturesque final posi-
 tion!

[81]

▷ Wang Yue (2702)
 ▶ Bu Xiangzhi (2668)
 Xinghua
 02.04.2012

28. ♖xb3! ♖xb3 29. bxa3! ♖xc3+
 30. ♖b2 ♖xe3 [30... ♖c4 31. ♖b3+-]
 31. ♖xe3+-

[82]

▷ G. Gopal (2572)
 ▶ T. Baron (2497)
 India-Israel rapid match
 03.04.2012

41. ♖h7+! ♖g8 42. ♖f6+! ♖f8
 43. ♖h8+! 1-0 [43. ♖h8+ ♙xh8
 44. ♖g8#]

[83]

- ▷ Li Shilong (2549)
► Bu Xiangzhi (2668)

Xinghua

04.04.2012

20...♘xf3+! 21.♙xf3 [21.gxf3 ♙g3+
22.♙e2 ♚xg5-+] 21...♚xg5+

[84]

- ▷ D. Baramidze (2612)
► N. Grandadam (2361)

Deizisau

09.04.2012

23.♚xh7! ♘xh7 [23...fxg5 24.♙h3
♙xh3 25.♚xh3±] 24.♙h5+ ♘g8
25.♙xg6+ ♘g7 26.♙h7+ ♘f7
27.g6+! Very important! Only in
this way White gets an advantage.
[27.♙g6+ ♘e7 28.♙xg7+ ♘d8∞]
27...♘e8 [27...♘e7 28.♙xg7+ ♘d6
29.♘e2!?±] 28.♙xg7 ♚g8 29.♙h7
♘f8 30.♙c7 ♘d7 31.♘e2! ♘e7
32.♘g3 1-0

[85]

- ▷ T. Burg (2464)
► K. Bischoff (2521)

Deizisau

09.04.2012

30...b5! 31.♘g1 [31.axb5 axb5 32.♙xb5
♙xb5 33.♙xb5 ♙f1+ 34.♘g1 ♙xb5-
+] 31...bxc4 32.♙xc4+ ♘d8-+

[86]

- ▷ A. Motylev (2683)
► J. Geller (2544)

Russian league

09.04.2012

28.♙c4! ♚ad8 29.♚xd5 ♙xd5 [29...
♚xd5 30.♚d1+-] 30.♚d1! ♙xc4
31.♚xd8+ ♘h7 32.bxc4+-

[87]

- ▷ I. Ibragimov (2539)
► B. Savchenko (2580)

Russian league

11.04.2012

33...♙xf1+! 34.♘xf1 ♙xg2+! 0-1

[88]

- ▷ G. Margvelashvili (2547)
► B. Finegold (2505)

Saint Louis

11.04.2012

17.a3!! This is the only move order
which wins the d4 bishop. [17.♚xd4?
♚xd4 18.a3 ♙d6!] 17...♙c5 18.♚xd4!
♚xd4 19.♙e3 ♚ed8 20.♘xd4 [20.
b4+-] 20...♚xd4 21.♚d1 ♚xd1
22.♙xc5+-

[89]

- ▷ P. Svidler (2744)
► D. Jakovenko (2729)

Russian league

11.04.2012

25...♙xf4! 0-1 Black had winning
position anyway, but this is the one,
after which White has to surren-
der immediately.[25...♙xf4 26.♚xd1
♙xd1+ 27.♘xd1 ♚d8+ 28.♘e2 (28.
♘c2 ♙d2+ 29.♘b3 ♚b8+-+) 28...
♚d2+ 29.♘e1 ♚c2!-+]

(90)

- ▷ M. Matlakov (2632)
 ▶ D. Khismatullin (2656)
 Russian league
 12.04.2012

32. ♖xg6+! [32. ♙e6+ ♚xe6
 33. ♜xf8+! ♜xf8 34. dxe6±] 32... hxc6
 33. ♜h8+!! ♜g7 [33... ♜xh8 34. ♜h6+
 ♜g8 35. ♜xg6+ ♜h8 36. ♜h7#]
 34. ♜h6+ ♜f6 35. ♜xf8+ ♜e7 In
 timetrouble White missed some
 forced mates, but he won the game
 anyway. 36. ♜g7+ [36. d6+ ♜xd6
 37. ♜f4++-] 36... ♜d6 37. ♜f6+- [37.
 ♜f6+! ♜c5 38. ♜c8+ ♜b5 39. ♜c6+
 ♜a5 40. ♜a8+-]

(91)

- ▷ P. Eljanov (2704)
 ▶ S. Movsesian (2702)
 Russian league
 13.04.2012

21... ♜e4!! 22. ♙d4! Other moves
 would have lost a piece. [22. ♙xd6
 ♜xd6-+] 22... e6 [22... ♜c8 was even
 more accurate 23. b3 e6±] 23. ♜fd1
 exd5± Black had a healthy pawn up.

(92)

- ▷ B. Grachev (2705)
 ▶ A. Poluljahov (2505)
 Russian league
 13.04.2012

24. ♜d7! 1-o[24. ♜d7 ♜fc8 (24...
 ♜e8 25. ♜e7+!+-) 25. ♜xf6+! gxf6
 26. ♜e7+!+-]

(93)

- ▷ P. Svidler (2744)
 ▶ A. Morozovich (2765)
 Russian league
 13.04.2012

22... ♙f4+! The king has no good
 square to leave from the check.
 23. ♜c2 [23. ♜d1 ♙g4+=] 23... ♙b7!!
 24. ♙xb7 [24. ♜xa8?! ♙xe4+] 24...
 ♜xh8 25. ♙d5 Due to the oppo-
 site colored bishops, all the moves
 lead to draw now. 25... ♜d8 [25...
 ♜xh2 26. ♜xh2 ♙xh2 27. ♙xf7=]
 26. ♜d1 [26. ♙xf7 ♜d2+=] 26... ♙xh2
 27. ♙xf7 ♜f8 28. ♙d5 ♜xf2+ 29. ♜d2
 ♜xd2+ 30. ♜xd2 ♙e5 31. b3 ♙f6 1/2-
 1/2

(94)

- ▷ P. Schlosser (2591)
 ▶ L. Vogt (2410)
 German league
 14.04.2012

39. ♜xd4! exd4 40. ♜c5 ♜e7 41. ♜xb7
 ♜xb7 42. ♜xd4±

(95)

- ▷ Z. Abdumalik (2137)
 ▶ Z. Andriasian (2616)
 Dubai Open
 15.04.2012

30... ♜xg3! [But not 30... ♜g4+?
 31. ♜xh3 ♜h5+ 32. ♜g2 ♜h2+ 33. ♜g1!
 and White survives by miracle.]
 31. ♜xf6+ ♙xf6 32. ♜xe8+ ♜g7 0-1

(96)

▷ J. Gustafsson (2642)

▶ M. Venkatesh (2509)

Bangkok Open

15.04.2012

27... ♖d3! 28. ♜xc2 [28. ♜b7 ♜c1!-+] 28... ♖xa6 29. ♜b4 [29. ♜c1 ♖d3-+] 29... ♖xf1 30. ♜xf1 ♜c5-+

(97)

▷ S. Karjakin (2766)

▶ D. Kokarev (2637)

Russian league

15.04.2012

The last move was 65... ♜f6-h5. After 6 hours of defending, Black ran out of energy and blundered. 66. ♜xh5+! [66. ♜xh5+ ♜xh5 67. ♜h1#]

(98)

▷ I. Morovic Fernandez (2577)

▶ Mat Latorre (2252)

Iberoamericano Championship

15.04.2012

14. ♜xa5! ♜xa5 [14... ♖xf1 15. ♜xc6+-] 15. ♖xa6±

(99)

▷ S. Vysochin (2550)

▶ V. Grinev (2404)

Nabokov memorial

19.04.2012

25. ♜dxd5! ♜b7 [25... exd5 26. ♜xc8+ ♜xc8 27. ♜xa6+-] 26. ♜db5! ♜e4 27. ♜e3 ♜c2 28. ♜e1 1-0

(100)

▷ V. Belous (2524)

▶ A. Predke (2461)

Sochi

21.04.2012

21. ♜xh7! ♜xh7 [21... fxg4 22. ♜h8+ ♜g7 23. ♜1h7#] 22. ♜c4+ ♜f7 23. ♜h8+! ♜xh8 24. ♜xf7 ♖xc5 25.e6! White gets a technically winning position in both s. 25...b6 [25... ♖xe6 26. ♜xe6+-] 26. ♜e8+ ♜g7 27. ♜c6 ♖xe6 28. ♜xa8+-

(101)

▷ S. Bromberger (2513)

▶ T. Likavsky (2486)

Austrian league

21.04.2012

27. ♜f8+! 1-o [27. ♜f8+ ♜h8 (27... ♜xf8 28.gxh4+-) 28. ♜h6#]

(102)

▷ L. Thiede (2458)

▶ S. Siebrecht (2468)

Austrian league

22.04.2012

25...e4!! 26. ♖e3 [26.dxe4 ♜xe2+ 27. ♜xe2 ♜xd2-+; 26. ♜xe4 ♜xe2+ 27. ♜g2 f5-+] 26...exd3 27. ♖xd4 dxe2 [27...cxd4-+] 28. ♜xe2 cxd4-+

(103)

▷ V. Baklan (2612)

▶ T. Sachdev (2414)

Dubai Open

23.04.2012

27. ♖xf7! ♘xf7 28. ♖g6+ ♘f8
29. ♖g3! ♙d6 30. ♙xf6+-

(104)

▷ S. Vaibhav (2494)

▶ S. Maze (2577)

Lille Open

25.04.2012

17. ♖xf6+! ♖xf6 18. ♖f1 ♖xf1+
19. ♘xf1+-

(105)

▷ I. Bukavshin (2504)

▶ V. Fedoseev (2548)

Sochi

26.04.2012

26. fxe5! ♖d3 [26... ♖xh5 27. ♖xf8#;
26... ♖xf1 27. exf6+-] 27. ♖h4 [27.
♖f3+-] 27... ♖g4 28. ♖h3+-

(106)

▷ R. Antoniewski (2559)

▶ M. Olszewski (2539)

Italian league

28.04.2012

38. ♖ef5+! ♙xf5 [38... gxf5 39. ♖xg5+
♘f8 40. ♖xh4+-] 39. ♖xf5+! gxf5
40. ♖xg5+ ♘f8 41. ♖xh4+-

(107)

▷ V. Babula (2572)

▶ M. Grunberg (2420)

Austrian league

29.04.2012

Black was hoping for winning the
a4 knight, but... 22. ♖b6! ♙xa4
23. ♙xe6+ ♘f8 [23... ♘h8 24. ♖d8+
♙f8 25. ♖xf8+! ♖xf8 26. ♖xa7+-]
24. ♖d8+ ♖xd8 [24... ♘e7 25. ♖d6+
♘f6 26. ♙xc4+ ♘f5 27. ♖f4#]
25. ♖xd8+ 1-0 [25. ♖xd8+ ♙e8
26. ♖d6#]

(108)

▷ A. Czebe (2477)

▶ S. Arun Prasad (2517)

Melaka Open

29.04.2012

24. ♖d8+! 1-0

(109)

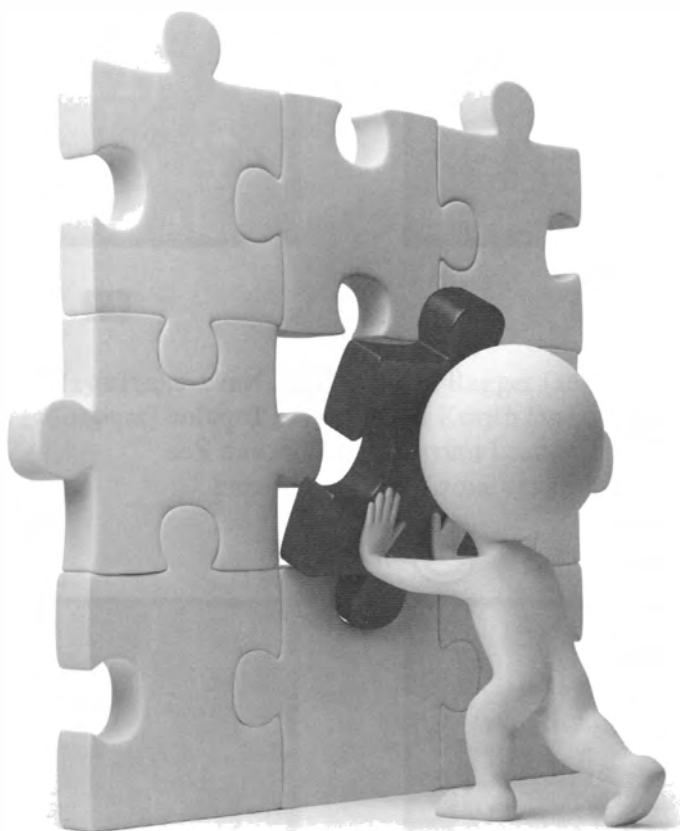
▷ Z. Mammadov (2378)

▶ G. Guseinov (2616)

Nakhchivan Open

29.04.2012

28... ♖g3!! 0-1 [28... ♖g3 29. fxxg3 fxxg3+
30. ♘xg3 ♖f4#]



(1)

▷ D. Navara (2705)

▶ T. Polak (2546)

Czech Extraliga

07.01.2012

1. +/-

**(2)**

▷ L'E Ami (2596)

▶ S. Tiviakov (2677)

Wijk aan Zee

14.01.2012

1. +/-

**(3)**

▷ K. Lahno (2557)

▶ S. Ernst (2606)

Wijk aan Zee

14.01.2012

1. +/-

**(4)**

▷ D. Navara (2712)

▶ V. Topalov (2770)

Wijk aan Zee

14.01.2012

1... =



(5)

▷ M. Carlsen (2835)

▶ L. Aronian (2805)

Wijk aan Zee

16.01.2012

1. +-

**(6)**

▷ H. Nakamura (2759)

▶ D. Navara (2712)

Wijk aan Zee

19.01.2012

1. +-

**(7)**

▷ J. Timman (2571)

▶ S. Ernst (2606)

Wijk aan Zee

19.01.2012

1. +-

**(8)**

▷ M. Ragger (2655)

▶ V. Kunin (2537)

Austrian League

21.01.2012

1. +-



[9]

▷ M. Bosboom (2394)

► D. Fridman (2660)

Gibraltar

24.01.2012

1... -+



[10]

▷ V. Gashimov (2761)

► D. Navara (2712)

Wijk aan Zee

24.01.2012

1. +-



[11]

▷ N. Getz (2408)

► M. Vachier Lagrave (2699)

Gibraltar

24.01.2012

1... -+



[12]

▷ T. Baron (2498)

► N. Short (2677)

Gibraltar

25.01.2012

1... -+



[13]

▷ C. Hanley (2421)

▶ H. Koneru (2589)

Gibraltar

25.01.2012

1... -+

**[14]**

▷ S. Mamedyarov (2747)

▶ T. Nabaty (2563)

Gibraltar

25.01.2012

1. +- **[15]**

▷ M. Adams (2724)

▶ D. Fridman (2660)

Gibraltar

26.01.2012

1. +- **[16]**

▷ R. Felgaer (2571)

▶ V. Bologan (2680)

Gibraltar

26.01.2012

1. +- 

[17]

▷ N. Huschenbeth (2518)
 ► R. Valhondo Morales (2046)
 Gibraltar
 26.01.2012

1. +/-

**[19]**

▷ D. Andreikin (2688)
 ► R. Yandarbiev (2391)
 Gibraltar
 28.01.2012

1. +-

**[18]**

▷ A. Shirov (2710)
 ► M. Muzychuk (2484)
 Gibraltar
 26.01.2012

1. +-

**[20]**

▷ F. El Debs (2497)
 ► M. Vachier Lagrave (2699)
 Gibraltar
 28.01.2012

1. +-



[21]

- ▷ S. Ernst (2606)
 ▶ L. Bruzon (2691)

Gibraltar

29.01.2012

1... -+

**[23]**

- ▷ A. Gabrielian (2545)
 ▶ V. Iordachescu (2651)

Moscow Open

30.01.2012

1... -/+

**[22]**

- ▷ S. Movsesian (2700)
 ▶ A. Zatonskih (2506)

Gibraltar

29.01.2012

1. +-

**[24]**

- ▷ M. Peek (2354)
 ▶ S. Brunello (2581)

Gibraltar

30.01.2012

1. =



[25]

▷ V. Laznicka (2704)
▶ D. Howell (2603)
Gibraltar
31.01.2012

1. =



[27]

▷ B. Socko (2636)
▶ I. Naumkin (2443)
Moscow Open
31.01.2012

1. +-



[26]

▷ M. Parligras (2650)
▶ R. Rapport (2543)
Gibraltar
31.01.2012

1... -+



[28]

▷ Ab. Gupta (2652)
▶ L. Javakhishvili (2454)
Gibraltar
01.02.2012

1. +-



[29]

▷ K. Sasikiran (2700)

▶ N. Short (2677)

Gibraltar

02.02.2012

1... -/+

**[30]**

▷ A. Lastin (2538)

▶ B. Firat (2396)

Aeroflot Open

07.02.2012

1... =

**[32]**

▷ D. Debashis (2389)

▶ A. Rychagov (2542)

Aeroflot Open

08.02.2012

1. +-

**[31]**

▷ I. Sokolov (2641)

▶ G. Pap (2533)

Aeroflot Open

07.02.2012

1. +-



[33]

▷ V.I. Fedoseev (2525)

▶ S. Sjogirov (2622)

Aeroflot Open

08.02.2012

1... -+

**[35]**

▷ I. Popov (2599)

▶ M. Venkatesh (2499)

Aeroflot Open

10.02.2012

1. +/-

**[34]**

▷ B. Esen (2534)

▶ R. Mamedov (2636)

Aeroflot Open

09.02.2012

1. +-

**[36]**

▷ D. Fridman (2652)

▶ H. Klip (2380)

Dutch league

11.02.2012

1. +/-



[37]

▷ M. Venkatesh (2499)
 ▶ E. Ghaem Maghami (2570)
 Aeroflot Open
 11.02.2012

1... -/+

**[38]**

▷ S. Grover (2532)
 ▶ E. Karavade (2354)
 Aeroflot Open
 15.02.2012

1. +-

**[39]**

▷ M. Sieciechowicz (2459)
 ▶ B. Macieja (2617)
 Polish Championship
 18.02.2012

1... -+

**[40]**

▷ R. Kempinski (2610)
 ▶ P. Jaracz (2542)
 Polish Championship
 24.02.2012

1. +/-



[41]

- ▷ K. Bischoff (2547)
 ▶ B. Kohlweyer (2458)

German League

25.02.2012

1. +/-

**[42]**

- ▷ R. Rabiega (2501)
 ▶ F. Vallejo Pons (2716)

German League

25.02.2012

1. +/-

**[43]**

- ▷ Mat Bartel (2658)
 ▶ T. Markowski (2612)

Polish Championship

26.02.2012

1. +/-

**[44]**

- ▷ R. Fontaine (2552)
 ▶ E. Najer (2637)

German league

26.02.2012

1. +/-



[45]

▷ N. Huschenbeth (2510)

▶ E. Postny (2622)

German league

26.02.2012

1. +/-

**[46]**

▷ D. Wegener (2364)

▶ L. D. Nisipeanu (2638)

German league

26.02.2012

1. =

**[47]**

▷ L. Lenic (2637)

▶ V. Kunin (2537)

Austrian league

01.03.2012

1... -/+

**[48]**

▷ J. Tomczak (2555)

▶ D. Pulvett (2340)

Cappelle la Grande

03.03.2012

1. +/-



[49]

▷ B. Valuet (2318)
 ▶ V. Durarbayli (2543)
 Cappelle la Grande
 03.03.2012

1... -/+

**[51]**

▷ A. Shneider (2529)
 ▶ P. Grandadam (2189)
 Cappelle la Grande
 04.03.2012

1. +/-

**[50]**

▷ C. Koepke (2404)
 ▶ J. Pinter (2546)
 Austrian league
 04.03.2012

1. +-

**[52]**

▷ M. Tazbir (2513)
 ▶ B. Amin (2608)
 Cappelle la Grande
 05.03.2012

1... -+



[53]

- ▷ T. Sanikidze (2549)
▷ P. Harikrishna (2648)

Cappelle la Grande

05.03.2012

1... -+

**[55]**

- ▷ Nguyen Ngoc Truong Son (2662)
▷ Li Shilong (2549)

HD Bank Cup

06.03.2012

1.+/-

**[54]**

- ▷ P. Harikrishna (2678)
▷ V. Zakhartsov (2563)

Cappelle la Grande

06.03.2012

1. +-

**[56]**

- ▷ And. Sokolov (2577)
▷ V. Neverov (2544)

Cappelle la Grande

07.03.2012

1. +-



(57)

▷ A. Zhrebukh (2642)

▶ A. Vul (2318)

Cappelle la Grande

07.03.2012

1. +/-

**(59)**

▷ H. Steingrimsson (2556)

▶ Fl. Perez (2269)

Reykjavik Open

08.03.2012

1. +-

**(58)**

▷ I. Cheparinov (2664)

▶ K. Akshayraj (2422)

Reykjavik Open Reykjavik ISL

08.03.2012

1.+-

**(60)**

▷ Hj. Grettarsson (2460)

▶ E. Vaarala (2241)

Reykjavik Open

09.03.2012

1. +-



[61]

▷ Z. Kozul (2602)

► A. Brkic (2587)

Zagreb Open

10.03.2012

1.+ -

**[63]**

▷ V. Papin (2575)

► T. Thorhallsson (2398)

Reykjavik Open

11.03.2012

1.+ -

**[62]**

▷ D. Navara (2700)

► I. Sokolov (2653)

Reykjavik Open

10.03.2012

1... -/+

**[64]**

▷ L. Cyborowski (2543)

► A. Giri (2722)

German league

17.03.2012

1. =



[65]

▷ L. Fressinet (2696)

▶ S. Gordon (2535)

German league

18.03.2012

1. +-

**[67]**

▷ Cs. Balogh (2664)

▶ A. Sharafiev (2433)

European Championship

20.03.2012

1... -+

**[66]**

▷ R. Wojtaszek (2704)

▶ P. Negi (2631)

German league

18.03.2012

1... =

**[68]**

▷ G. Guseinov (2616)

▶ Y. Erturan (2370)

European Championship

20.03.2012

1. +-



[69]

- ▷ Da. Klein (2418)
 ▶ Iv. Saric (2649)
 European Championship
 20.03.2012

1. +/-

**[70]**

- ▷ Ad. Bach (2264)
 ▶ D. Lintchevski (2564)
 European Championship
 20.03.2012

1. +/-

**[71]**

- ▷ V. Kotronias (2597)
 ▶ D. Lomsadze (2338)
 European Championship
 21.03.2012

1... =

**[72]**

- ▷ Gy. Pap (2538)
 ▶ I. Khenkin (2632)
 European Championship
 21.03.2012

1. +/-



[73]

▷ E. Safarli (2645)
 ► D. Agaragimov (2342)
 European Championship
 20.03.2012

1. +/-

**[75]**

▷ S. Sulskis (2596)
 ► A. Boruchovsky (2333)
 European Championship
 20.03.2012

1... -/+

**[74]**

▷ H. Stefansson (2531)
 ► Bo. Vuckovic (2628)
 European Championship
 21.03.2012

1. +/-

**[76]**

▷ T. Antal (2352)
 ► D. Zoler (2541)
 European Championship
 22.03.2012

1... -/+



(77)

▷ N. Grandelius (2545)
 ▶ H. Melkumyan (2628)
 European Championship
 22.03.2012

1. +/-

**(79)**

▷ S. Movsesian (2702)
 ▶ V. Kotronias (2597)
 European Championship
 22.03.2012

1. +-

**(78)**

▷ A. Korobov (2679)
 ▶ I. Nyzhnyk (2585)
 European Championship
 22.03.2012

1... =

**(80)**

▷ A. Istratescu (2633)
 ▶ Ant. Pavlidis (2431)
 European Championship
 23.03.2012

1. +-



[81]

▷ N. Sedlak (2593)
 ▶ T. Petenyi (2359)
 European Championship
 23.03.2012

1... -+

**[83]**

▷ C. Braun (2372)
 ▶ D. Navara (2700)
 European Championship
 25.03.2012

1... -+

**[82]**

▷ I. Popov (2605)
 ▶ Ni. Djukic (2513)
 European Championship
 24.03.2012

1. +-

**[84]**

▷ V. Durarbayli (2543)
 ▶ A. Beliavsky (2630)
 European Championship
 25.03.2012

1. +-



[85]

▷ A. Naiditsch (2702)
 ▶ I. Sokolov (2653)
 European Championship
 25.03.2012

1. +-

**[87]**

▷ E. Sutovsky (2700)
 ▶ Z. Kozul (2602)
 European Championship
 25.03.2012

1. +-

**[86]**

▷ R. Rapport (2553)
 ▶ D. Kadric
 European Championship
 25.03.2012

1. +-

**[88]**

▷ E. Can (2476)
 ▶ T. Nyback (2636)
 European Championship
 27.03.2012

1. -+



[89]

▷ A. Cioara (2477)
 ▶ M. Roiz (2652)
 European Championship
 27.03.2012

1. +-

**[91]**

▷ D. Navara (2700)
 ▶ V. Jianu (2497)
 European Championship
 27.03.2012

1.+-

**[90]**

▷ R. Hovhannisyan (2600)
 ▶ N. Vitiugov (2709)
 European Championship
 27.03.2012

1... -+

**[92]**

▷ Djukic, Ni (2513)
 ▶ C. Ali Marandi (2315)
 European Championship
 28.03.2012

1. +/-



[93]

▷ S. Movsesian (2702)
 ▶ L. Pantsulaia (2595)
 European Championship
 28.03.2012

1. +-

**[94]**

▷ A. Berescu (2494)
 ▶ S. Ernst (2578)
 European Championship
 29.03.2012

1. -/+

**[95]**

▷ D. Khismatullin (2656)
 ▶ A. Mastrovasilis (2510)
 European Championship
 29.03.2012

1. +-

**[96]**

▷ Vu. Rasulov (2526)
 ▶ A. Mista (2587)
 European Championship
 29.03.2012

1... -+



[97]

▷ D. Lintchevski (2564)
 ▶ A. Cioara (2477)
 European Championship
 30.03.2012

1. +-

**[99]**

▷ B. Socko (2647)
 ▶ V. Popov (2546)
 European Championship
 30.03.2012

1... =/+

**[98]**

▷ M. Mchedlishvili (2626)
 ▶ R. Rapport (2559)
 European Championship
 30.03.2012

1. +-

**[100]**

▷ E. Najer (2640)
 ▶ M. Vachier Lagrave (2682)
 European Championship
 31.03.2012

1. +/-



[101]

▷ A. Shabalov (2523)
 ▶ T. Gelashvili (2618)
 Philadelphia
 06.04.2012

1. +/-

**[102]**

▷ L. Vajda (2597)
 ▶ C. Zeng (2435)
 Doeberl Cup
 08.04.2012

1. +/-

**[103]**

▷ J. Bosch (2386)
 ▶ V. Shishkin (2464)
 Deizisau
 09.04.2012

1... -/+

**[104]**

▷ A. Morozevich (2765)
 ▶ D. Jakovenko (2729)
 Russian league
 10.04.2012

1. +/-



[105]

▷ A. Korobov (2679)

► M. Panarin (2523)

Russian league

12.04.2012

1... =/+

**[107]**

▷ P. Acs (2587)

► D. Howell (2633)

German league

15.04.2012

1... -+

**[106]**

▷ An. Young (2321)

► E. Sevillano (2502)

Saint Louis

12.04.2012

1... -+

**[108]**

▷ J. Granda Zuniga (2640)

► G. Milos (2593)

Iberoamericano Championship

15.04.2012

1... -+



[109]

▷ D. Jakovenko (2729)

▶ E. Sutovsky (2700)

Russian league

15.04.2012

1... =

**[110]**

▷ R. Kasimdzahov (2678)

▶ A. Postojev (2330)

German league

15.04.2012

1. +/-

**[111]**

▷ M. Mozharov (2474)

▶ V. Malakhov (2705)

Russian league

15.04.2012

1... =

**[112]**

▷ P. Tregubov (2599)

▶ A. Morozovich (2765)

Russian league

15.04.2012

1... -+



[113]

▷ Y. Bacallao Alonso (2550)

▶ J. Gonzalez Garcia (2529)

Catalanian league

17.04.2012

1. +-

**[114]**

▷ E. Ahmadinia (2379)

▶ B. Amin (2608)

Dubai Open

22.04.2012

1... -/+

**[115]**

▷ S. Movsesian (2715)

▶ D. Swiercz (2585)

Czech league

22.04.2012

1. +-

**[116]**

▷ J. Radulski (2552)

▶ K. Rusev (2516)

Bulgarian Championship

22.04.2012

1... -+



[117]

▷ B. Bellahcene (2321)

▶ F. Handke (2525)

Lille Open

26.04.2012

1... -+

**[118]**

▷ V. Nozdrachev (2449)

▶ A. Stukopin (2485)

Sochi

26.04.2012

1. +-

**[119]**

▷ D. Collutiis (2493)

▶ M. Brunello (2263)

Italian league

28.04.2012

1. +-

**[120]**

▷ A. Motylev (2683)

▶ Wan Yunguo (2441)

Chinese league

28.04.2012

1. +-



[121]

▷ E. Safarli (2645)
► V. Rasulov (2526)
Nakhchivan Open
29.04.2012

1... -+



[122]

▷ E. Sutovsky (2700)
► M. Olszewski (2539)
Italian league
29.04.2012

1. =



– SOLUTIONS –

(1)

▷ D. Navara (2705)

► T. Polak (2546)

Czech Extraliga

07.01.2012

22. ♖e5!! ♜f5 [22...dxe5 23.dxe5!!+- After this subtle move Black can resign, he has no defense against ♜f6! (23. ♜f6 Also leads to much better, probably winning rook end-game 23...♜f5 (23...♜g8 24.dxe5!+-) 24. ♖xe5 ♜g8 25.gxf5 exf5 26. ♖xf5 ♖xe3+ 27.♜h2 ♖e4±)] **23.gxf5 exf5** **24. ♖c6!** 1-o [24. ♖c6 dxe5 25. ♖xh6+ ♜g8 26. ♜xf5+-]

(2)

▷ L'E. Ami (2596)

► S. Tiviakov (2677)

Wijk aan Zee

14.01.2012

16. ♔b4! ♜xe5 [16... ♖xb4 17. ♜xd7 ♜f7 18. ♜xf6+ ♜xf6 19.cxd5 cxd5 20. ♜c2± White is much better. He will penetrate on the c-file.] **17.** ♔xd6 ♜xf3 **18.** ♔xf8 ♜xd4 **19.e3!** ♜e2 [19...♜xf8 20.exd4±] **20.** ♜c2 ♜xf8 **21.** ♜xe2 ♜e7 [21...dxc4 22. ♜d6±] **22.** ♜c2 With an exchange up. Few moves later he managed to open one line for the rooks and won the game. **22...** ♜d6 **23.b4 a5** **24.cxd5 exd5** **25.** ♜dc1 ♜c8 **26.bxa5 bxa5** **27.** ♜b1±

(3)

▷ K. Lahno (2557)

► S. Ernst (2606)

Wijk aan Zee

14.01.2012

28. ♜f5!! A great intuitive piece sacrifice. **28...** ♔xf5 [28... ♔xf5 29.exf5 gxf5 30. ♔xg7+ ♜xg7 31. ♖h3+- Black can not prevent the ♖h6+ then g6 and the ♔xf5 threats.] **29.exf5** Black can not hold his material advantage, due to the f6 threat. **29...** ♔xf5 **30.** ♔xf5 ♜f7 [30... ♜xf5 31. ♔xg7+ ♜xg7 32. ♖xf5+-] **31.** ♔xg7+ ♜xg7 **32.** ♖h5 ♜h8 **33.** ♔e6 ♔d8 **34.g6+-**

(4)

▷ D. Navara (2712)

► V. Topalov (2770)

Wijk aan Zee

14.01.2012

27... ♖xe2! [27... ♜f4+? 28.gxf4 ♖g4+ 29.♜h1! ♜xf4 30. ♖d6± The knight on h2 protects the king.] **28.** ♖xd5 ♜e3! Wins back the piece. **29.** ♜e1 ♖xf3+ **30.** ♖xf3 ♜exf3 **31.** ♜b2 ♜xd3 1/2-1/2 draw agreed, because of 32. ♜e7

(5)

▷ M. Carlsen (2835)

► L. Aronian (2805)

Wijk aan Zee

16.01.2012

33.e6!! ♖a8 [33...fxe6 34. ♖e4!+- was the point and the g6 falls!] **34.exf7+** [34.e7! was the most precise way

to win 34...♖xd5 35.e8Q ♖xe8 36.♖xd5+-] 34...♙h8? [34...♙g7 would have given some hopes for survival 35.♘f4 ♖xg2+ 36.♙xg2 ♙xf7 37.♖f2±] 35.♘f4+-

(6)

▷ H. Nakamura (2759)

▶ D. Navara (2712)

Wijk aan Zee

19.01.2012

19.♙xd5! ♖xd5 20.♙f6! ♖d6 [20... ♖xh5 21.♙xe7+-] 21.♙xe7 ♖xe7 22.♘f6+ it was enough to stop the calculations here, as White is winning. Nakamura finishes the game in great style... 22...♙g7 23.♖c4! ♖h4 threats! 23...♖e5 24.♖af1 h5



25.♘h5+! The fastest way to victory! 25...♖xh5 [25...gxh5 26.♖xf7+ ♖xf7 27.♖xf7+ ♙h8 28.♖f5 ♖a1+ 29.♙g2 ♖xd2+ 30.♙h3+-] 26.♖xf7+ ♖xf7 27.♖xf7+ ♙h6 [27...♙h8 28.♖c3+-] 28.♖f4+ g5 [28...♖g5 29.♖h7+!+-] 29.♖f6+ ♖g6 30.♖f1! ♖h5 [30... ♖xd2 31.♖h3+ ♖h5 32.♖h7+-] 31.♖xb7+-

(7)

▷ J. Timman (2571)

▶ S. Ernst (2606)

Wijk aan Zee

19.01.2012

23.♘e5+!! [23.♙a3±] 23...♘xe5 [23... fxe5? 24.♘g5+ ♙f6 25.fxe5+ ♙xe5 26.♖e1+-] 24.fxe5 ♘g5 is the main threat. 24...♙f5 25.♘c5+-

(8)

▷ M. Ragger (2655)

▶ V. Kunin (2537)

Austrian League

21.01.2012

14.♙d3! This silent, lineclosing move is winning by force. 14...♖f7 15.♘xc6 bxc6 16.♖b3! ♙c5 17.♙c4+-

(9)

▷ M. Bosboom (2394)

▶ D. Fridman (2660)

Gibraltar

24.01.2012

21...♙f3+!! To lure the White queen from the h6 square! 22.♖xf3 ♖d7! One of the many different wins, with the idea of ♖a4. 23.♖f4 ♘c5 [23... ♖a4 24.♖h6 ♘d4+ 25.♙d2 ♖c2+ 26.♙e1 ♖c1#] 24.♙h3 [24.♖h6 ♖a4+ 25.♙e1 ♖b4+ 26.♙d1 ♖b1+ 27.♙d2 ♘e4#] 24...♖a4+-

(10)

▷ V. Gashimov (2761)

▶ D. Navara (2712)

Wijk aan Zee

24.01.2012

25.g4? [Gashimov missed the beautiful 25. Bxc7!! Kxc7 26. Kg5! g6 (26... Bg6 27. Kxg6+-) 27. Kxh6 gxf4 28. Kg5+ Bg6 29. Kxg6+ Kh8 30. Kxh5\#] 25... Bg6!\pm

(11)

- ▷ N. Getz (2408)
▶ M. Vachier Lagrave (2699)

Gibraltar

24.01.2012

33... Bb8! [33... Bxf1 34. Bxf1 Bxf1 35. Qxf1 Kf6+] 34. Bh4 [34. Bb1 Bf2+!! this great move was the point of 33... Bb8! 35. Qxf2 Kf6+ 36. Qe2 (36. Qg2 Kf3+ 37. Qh2 Kf2\#) 36... Kf3+ 37. Qd2 Kf2+ 38. Qc3 Kxg3+ 39. Qc2 Kd3+ 40. Qc1 Bxb1\#] 34... Bb2+ 35. Qg1 Bxf1+ 0-1, Kf6 is coming with mate.

(12)

- ▷ T. Baron (2498)
▶ N. Short (2677)

Gibraltar

25.01.2012

39... Kxf3! 40. Qf6+ Kxf6! 41. exf6 Kxe1+ 42. Qf2 Qxf6! taking always with tempo 43. Kxc5 Ke8!+- Black got too many pieces for the queen.

(13)

- ▷ C. Hanley (2421)
▶ H. Koneru (2589)

Gibraltar

25.01.2012

34... h5! [34... Qf4+ 35. gxf4 Kxc4\# 35. Ke2 [35. Kd1 Kxc4 36. hxc5

Kc6!+- (36... h4+-); 35. Kxh5 Qf4+! 36. gxf4 Kh3+ 37. Qg1 Qf3+ 38. Kxf3 Kxf3+-] 35... Qf4+! 0-1 [35... Qf4+ 36. gxf4 Kh3+ 37. Qg1 Qf3+ 38. Kxf3 Kxf3+-]

(14)

- ▷ S. Mamedyarov (2747)
▶ T. Nabaty (2563)

Gibraltar

25.01.2012

21. Kxg6! Kxg6 [21... Kxg6 22. gxf5! Qxf5 23. Kh7+ Qf6 24. Kf7\#] 22. gxf5+ Kg7 [22... Kxf5 23. Qh2 and Bg1 wins.] 23. e4! Very well played! 23... dxe4 24. Qcxe4 Kxd4+ 25. Qh1+- Qf8 26. Qxf6 Kxf6 27. Ke7+! 1-0 [27. Ke7+ Kxe7 28. Qe6+ Qf7 29. Kh5+!+- ; 27. Bg1+-]

(15)

- ▷ M. Adams (2724)
▶ D. Fridman (2660)

Gibraltar

26.01.2012

With his last move 48...b6, Black wanted to simplify the position, but he blundered a great breakthrough. 49. b5!! Ba8 [49... axb5 50. Bxb5+- ; 49... bxa5 50. bxa6+-] 50. axb6 a5 51. Qxe5 a4 52. Qd6 a3 53. Kxg5+ 1-0 [53. Kxg5+ Qf8 54. Bh5!+-]

(16)

- ▷ R. Felgaer (2571)
▶ V. Bologan (2680)

Gibraltar

26.01.2012

24. ♖h4! with the threat of ♖xf5. [24. ♖d2±] 24... ♙xh4 25. ♖xd6! ♚b8 26. ♖xe8! b5 [26... ♚xa7 27. ♚xe5 f6 28. ♚e7+-] 27.gxh4 bxc4 28. ♖f6+ 1-0

(17)

▷ N. Huschenbeth (2518)
▶ R. Valhondo Morales (2046)
Gibraltar
26.01.2012

18. ♖d5! exd5 [18... ♚d8 19. ♖xe7+ ♚xe7 20.c5 dxc5 21.bxc5+-] 19.cxd5 ♚d8 20. ♖c6! ♙xc6 [20... ♚e8 21. ♙xa6±] 21.dxc6 ♚c7 22.cxd7 ♚xd7 23. ♙xa6+-

(18)

▷ A. Shirov (2710)
▶ M. Muzychuk (2484)
Gibraltar
26.01.2012

31. ♙xd4! ♚xd4 [Black could have tried to resist with a computer idea 31... ♙g7! 32. ♙g4 ♙cc7! but still after a few accurate moves, White is winning. 33. ♙g1 (33. ♖h3!?+-) 33... ♚a7! 34. ♚a3! (34.f3 ♙xg4 35.fxg4+-) 34... ♚xf2+ 35. ♙1g2 ♚b6 36.c5 ♚xc5 37. ♚xc5 dxc5 38. ♙xa2+-; 31...exd4 32. ♚g8+ ♖e7 33. ♙e1#] 32. ♙xd4 a1Q 33. ♙g4 ♖e7 34. ♙g7+ ♖d8 35. ♙xd7+ ♖xd7 36. ♚g7+ ♖d8 37. ♚f8+ 1-0 [37. ♚f8+ ♖c7 38. ♚e7+ ♖b6 39. ♚b7+-]

(19)

▷ D. Andreikin (2688)
▶ R. Yandarbiev (2391)
Gibraltar
28.01.2012

40. ♖e6!! [40. ♙xa1 ♚xf4+! 41. ♖h1 ♙xa1=] 40... ♙xf1 41. ♚xf6 1-0

(20)

▷ F. El Debs (2497)
▶ M. Vachier Lagrave (2699)
Gibraltar
28.01.2012

24. ♙xb7! ♖xb7 25. ♙xc6+ ♖f8 26. ♙d7 ♚xd7 [26... ♖d6 27. ♙xc7 ♖xf5 28. ♙xa8+-] 27. ♚xd7 ♙xa7 28. ♚e8# 1-0

(21)

▷ S. Ernst (2606)
▶ L. Bruzon (2691)
Gibraltar
29.01.2012

18... ♚xa2+!! 19. ♙xa2 bxa2 20. ♚e4 [20. ♚d5 f6!-+] 20...f6! 21. ♙xe5 fxe5 [21...o-o!?-+] 22. ♚xe5+ ♙e6 23. ♚xg7 ♙f8! 24. ♙f3 ♙ef6 o-o

(22)

▷ S. Movsesian (2700)
▶ A. Zatonskih (2506)
Gibraltar
29.01.2012

40. ♚f7+! ♖h8 41. ♚h7+!! 1-0 [41. ♚h7+ ♖xh7 42. ♖f7#]

(23)

▷ A. Gabrielian (2545)
▶ V. Iordachescu (2651)
Moscow Open
30.01.2012

22... ♖xc2! 23. ♗xc2 ♙xe4! 24. ♗xe4 [24. ♗a2 ♗a8!?+ (24... ♙xb1 25. ♗xb1 d5+)] 24... ♙h2+ 25. ♖xh2 ♖xe4+-

(24)

▷ M. Peek (2354)
▶ S. Brunello (2581)
Gibraltar
30.01.2012

37. ♖e1 [37. ♖e3!! would have been the only move to draw 37... ♖8c3+ (37... ♖2c3+ 38. ♖e2=) 38. ♖e4 ♖c4+ 39. ♖d3!= ♖f5 40. ♖f7+=; 37. ♖g4 ♖8c3+ 38. ♖e4 ♖e2+ 39. ♖d5 ♖d2+ 40. ♖e4 ♖d4#] 37... ♖8c3+! 38. ♖e4 ♖d2! 0-1

(25)

▷ V. Laznicka (2704)
▶ D. Howell (2603)
Gibraltar
31.01.2012

Black does not lose huge material after 20... ♖a4!! [20... ♖xd3 21. ♖xc3 ♖xc3 22. ♙xa7±; 20... ♗a5? 21. ♖xc5 ♖xd1+



22. ♗xd1! ♙xc5 23. ♗d7! ♖d8 24. ♖xc5! ♗e1+ 25. ♙f1 ♖xd7 26. ♖c8+-] 21. ♖f4! [21. ♖xc3? ♖xc3 22. ♗c2 ♖xd1 23. ♗xd1 ♖c3! 24. ♙f1 ♙xe4+] 21... ♗b4 22. ♖xd8+ ♖xd8 23. ♖xg6

hxc6 24. e5 [24. ♗c2! would have given enough compensation for White to make a draw.] 24... ♙c5 Black was slightly better and eventually won the game.

(26)

▷ M. Parligras (2650)
▶ R. Rapport (2543)
Gibraltar
31.01.2012

29... ♙xg4! 30. fxg4 ♙e3+! 31. ♖h1 ♖xe4! 0-1 [31... ♖xe4 32. ♙xe4 ♖xh3+ 33. ♖g2 ♗h4+-]

(27)

▷ B. Socko (2636)
▶ I. Naumkin (2443)
Moscow Open 2012 Moscow RUS
31.01.2012

23. ♖xd7! ♗xc4 [23... ♗xd7 24. ♗xg6+ ♖h8 25. ♗f6+! ♖g8 26. ♖e1!+-] 24. h4! ♗b5 [24... ♖h7 25. ♖ad1! 25. ♗f5 and 25. h5 were also fine. 25... ♖ac8 26. ♖1d6 ♗e4 27. h5+-] 25. ♖ad1! e4 26. ♖7d5!? [White missed the most precise way to win 26. ♖1d5! ♗xb2 27. ♖5d6! ♗b1+ 28. ♖g2 e3 29. h5 exf2 30. ♖xg6+! fxg6 31. ♗d5+ ♖h8 32. ♗e5+ ♖g8 33. ♗g7#] 26... ♗e2 27. h5 e3 28. fxe3±

(28)

▷ Ab. Gupta (2652)
▶ L. Javakhishvili (2454)
Gibraltar
01.02.2012

20. f4! ♖eg4 [20... ♖ed7 21. ♙xc6! ♖c8 22. ♗b3 ♖c5 23. ♗xf7+-] 21. ♗xc6!+-

[29]

▷ K. Sasikiran (2700)

► N. Short (2677)

Gibraltar

02.02.2012

29...♖e5!! 30.♞fg3 [30.fxe5 ♙xe5+ 31.♞f4 ♞xg1 32.♙xg1 ♙xf4 33.exf4 ♞e1+ 34.♙h2 h5!-+ White has no good defense against h4, ♞g3.(34...♞e3-+)] 30...♞xg3 31.♞xg3 ♖xc4 32.♙c1 ♙h4! 33.♞f3 [33.♞g1 ♖xe3-+] 33...♞g7+ [33...♙d7!?-+]

[30]

▷ A. Lastin (2538)

► B. Firat (2396)

Aeroflot Open

07.02.2012

Seemingly Black is completely lost, but... 31...♙c3! leads to drawish endgame 32.♞xh7+?! [32.♞xf6 ♙xd2 33.♞xf8+ ♞xf8=; 32.♞d3? ♞f1+ 33.♞xf1 ♞xf1+ 34.♙a2 ♞xd5-+] 32...♙xh7 33.♙e4+?? [33.♞d3+ ♞f5! 34.♞xf5+ ♞xf5 35.♙e4 ♞dd5 36.♞xa6 ♙g7 37.♙a2=] 33...♙h8 0-1

[31]

▷ I. Sokolov (2641)

► G. Pap (2533)

Aeroflot Open

07.02.2012

20.♙xg6! hxg6 [20...fxe5 21.♙xh7+ ♙h8 22.♙xg7+ ♙xg7 23.♞g6+ ♙h8 24.fxe5+-] 21.♞xg6 ♙f8 [21...♞e7 22.f5 (22.♞xf6+-) 22...♞e8 23.♞xf6+-] 22.f5!+- Prevents ♙f5 and threats

with ♖g4 or ♞f3. 22...fxe5 23.f6 ♞e6 24.♙xg7 1-0

[32]

▷ D. Debashis (2389)

► A. Rychagov (2542)

Aeroflot Open

08.02.2012

30.♞xd5! ♞xd5 31.♖f6+ ♙e7 32.♙xd5 [32.♖xd5+ exd5 33.♙xd5+-; After the fantastic 32.♖g8+!! Black can not even get to opposite colored bishop endgame. 32...♙d6 (32...♙d7 33.♙xd5 exd5 34.f5+-) 33.♙xd5 exd5 34.♖f6!!+-] 32...♙xf6 33.♙xb7 ♞b8 34.♙xa6 ♙xg6 35.♙c4+-

[33]

▷ V.I. Fedoseev (2525)

► S. Sjugirov (2622)

Aeroflot Open

08.02.2012

39...d3!! [39...♞g7? 40.♞f3!] 40.♞xd3 [40.♖xd3 ♞g7-+; 40.♙xd3 ♞g7-+] 40...♖xb4-+

[34]

▷ B. Esen (2534)

► R. Mamedov (2636)

Aeroflot Open

09.02.2012

22.♙xf5!! gxf5 23.♖xf5 ♞e8 24.♖e4! Black can not hold the attack. White pieces are too active. ♖g5 or ♞f3 is coming. 24...♙xc4 25.♖h6+ [25.♖g5!? ♙xf1 26.♖h6+ ♙f8 27.♖e6+ ♙e7 28.♞h7+ ♙d6 29.♖f5+ ♙xd5 30.♖c7+ ♙c6 31.♖xe8

♖xe8 32. ♗g6++-] 25... ♕f8 26. ♜d6!
 ♙xf1 [26... ♗e2 27. ♗xc4!+-] 27. ♜xe8
 ♖xe8 28. ♗g6+-

[35]

▷ I. Popov (2599)
 ▶ M. Venkatesh (2499)
 Aeroflot Open
 10.02.2012

23. ♙xf5! ♙xd5 24. ♙xh7+ ♜h8
 25. ♗h3! ♙f6 The best chance.
 26. fxe5! ♙h4! 27. ♙d3 ♙xg2? [27...
 ♗g5 28. ♖f5! ♗h6 (28... ♙xg2 29. ♖xg5
 ♙xh3 30. ♖h5+ ♙g7 31. ♖h7+ ♙g8
 32. ♖xh4+-) 29. ♖f6! ♗g5 30. ♖g6!
 ♗f4 31. ♖f1+-] 28. ♖f8+! [28. ♙xg2+-
] 28... ♙g7 [28... ♗xf8 29. ♗xh4+ ♙g7
 30. ♗h7#] 29. ♗xg2+ ♙xf8 30. ♖f1+
 ♙e8 31. ♗g6+ 1-o [31. ♗g6+ ♙d7
 32. ♗xd6+ ♙c8 33. ♗xc5+-]

[36]

▷ D. Fridman (2652)
 ▶ H. Klip (2380)
 Dutch league
 11.02.2012

14. ♜g5!! White gets a big advantage
 in all the lines. It might be easy to find
 this move, but during the practical
 game, it is hard to resist of not tak-
 ing back the piece on d2. 14... ♜xc4
 [14... ♜xf1 15. ♜xe6 ♗d6 16. ♖xf1±]
 15. ♜xe6 ♗d7 [15... ♗d6 16. ♜xc7!±]
 16. ♜c5! Other moves were not clear.
 [16. ♜xf8 ♙xf8; 16. ♜xc7 e6] 16... ♗d6
 17. ♜xb7 ♗e6 18. ♖fc1 ♜xb2 [18...
 ♜xb5 19. ♜c5 ♗f7 20. ♙xd5 ♗xd5
 21. ♗xc4±] 19. ♗xb2+-

[37]

▷ M. Venkatesh (2499)
 ▶ M. Ghaem Maghami (2570)
 Aeroflot Open
 11.02.2012

29... ♜ab3! 30. ♜xe2 ♖xe2 31. ♙g5
 [31. ♙e3 ♗xd1 32. ♖xd1 ♖xa2 33. d6
 ♙f8±] 31... ♗xd1 32. ♖xd1 ♖xa2
 33. d6 ♜c5!-+

[38]

▷ S. Grover (2532)
 ▶ E. Karavade (2354)
 Aeroflot Open
 15.02.2012

31. ♗f8!! ♜g8 [31... ♜xe4 32. ♜e7!+-
 ; 31... ♙xh5 32. ♜e7+-; 31... ♜xh5
 32. ♜e7+-] 32. hxg6+ fxg6 33. ♙xg6+
 ♙xg6 34. ♗xg8+ ♙f6 35. ♗f8+ ♙g5
 [35... ♗f7 36. ♗xh6+-] 36. ♜e7+-

[39]

▷ M. Sieciechowicz (2459)
 ▶ B. Macieja (2617)
 Polish Championship
 18.02.2012

28... ♖xe4! [28... ♙xe4! is the same as the
 game 29. ♖xe4 ♖xe4 30. ♙xe4] 29. ♖xe4
 ♙xe4 30. ♙xe4 ♜xe4 31. ♗xe4 ♗g3+
 32. ♙h1 [32. ♗g2 ♗xe1+-] 32... ♗h3+
 33. ♙g1 ♗g3+ 34. ♙h1 ♗h3+ 35. ♙g1
 ♗g3+ 36. ♙h1 ♜d3! 0-1

[40]

▷ R. Kempinski (2610)
 ▶ P. Jaracz (2542)
 Polish Championship
 24.02.2012

19. ♖f4!± Unbelievable, but Black cannot avoid losing the exchange! 19... ♜xe3?! [19... ♜ad8 20. ♜xd5+-; 19... c6 20. ♜xd5! ♞xd5 (20... cxd5 21. ♜c7+-; 20... cxb5 21. ♜c7+-) 21. ♜c7+-; 19... ♜xf4 20. gxf4 ♞xf4 21. ♜xc7±] 20. fxe3 c6 21. ♜a3! ♞b2 22. ♜c4 ♞xe2 23. ♜xe2+-

(41)

▷ K. Bischoff (2547)
▶ B. Kohlweyer (2458)
German League
25.02.2012

25. ♔xd5+!! cxd5 26. ♜b5 ♞b8 27. ♜xa7 ♞xa7 28. ♞c7! ♞xc7 [28... ♞xa4? 29. ♜a1 ♞b5 30. ♜a7+-] 29. ♜xc7 ♜d8 30. ♜d3± Black pieces are without future.

(42)

▷ R. Rabiega (2501)
▶ F. Vallejo Pons (2716)
German League
25.02.2012

11. ♔xh6! ♜e8 Vallejo finds the best practical defense. [11... ♔xf3 12. ♔xg7!! ♜xg7 13. ♞g5+ ♜h8 14. ♞h6+ ♜g8 15. gxf3+- ♜h1 and ♜g1 are the next moves.; 11... gxf3 12. ♞xh6 ♔xc3 (12... ♜e8 13. ♜g5+-) 13. ♞g5+! (13. bxc3 ♜e4 14. ♜e5±) 13... ♜h8 14. bxc3 ♜bd7 15. ♞h6+ ♜g8 16. ♜g5+-] 12. ♔xg7 [12. ♜ae1 was probably the best from the many good options. 12... ♔xc3 (12... gxf3 13. ♞xh6+-) 13. ♞g5 ♜e4 14. ♞xg4 ♔xb2 15. ♜g5±] 12... ♜xg7 13. ♞g5+ ♜f8 14. ♜ae1 Very logical move, but a mistake. White should have gone

there with his other rook. As we will see, the a-rook will have a very important role on the b-file. [14. ♜fe1 ♔e6 15. ♜d4 ♔xc3 (15... ♜g8 16. ♜xe6+ fxe6 17. ♞f4+!+-) 16. ♞h6+ ♜e7 17. bxc3 ♜c6 18. ♜ab1!±] 14... ♔e6 15. ♜d4 ♔xc3 16. ♞h6+ ♜e7 17. bxc3 ♜c6∞

(43)

▷ Mat. Bartel (2658)
▶ T. Markowski (2612)
Polish Championship
26.02.2012

27. ♜xb6! ♜xb6 28. ♔xd5+ ♜h7 29. ♞f5! 1-o [29. ♞f5 to avoid the ♜f8-Qh7 mate, Black has to play 29... ♞xg6 but after 30. ♔g8+! ♜xg8 31. ♞xg6+- he is losing too big material because of the ♔xh6 and d5 threats.; 29. ♞e4! has the same effect as 29. ♞f5!]

(44)

▷ R. Fontaine (2552)
▶ E. Najer (2637)
German league
26.02.2012

15. f4!! and Black loses his e4 pawn after ♔g2! 15... ♜a6 [15... exf3? 16. e4! f2+ 17. ♜e2!+- Unusual queen trapping.] 16. ♔g2 ♔b4 [16... ♜b4 17. ♔xb4 ♔xb4+ 18. ♜e2±] 17. a3 ♔xd2+ 18. ♜xd2 e5 19. ♔xe4 ♞e6 20. fxe5±

(45)

▷ N. Huschenbeth (2510)
▶ E. Postny (2622)
German league
26.02.2012

White achieves a better endgame after a great idea! **18. ♖h6!! gxf6** [18... f6 19. ♖xe6+ ♖xe6 20. ♖xe6 gxf6 21. ♖d1 ♖ad8 22. ♖ed6 ♖xd6 23. ♖xd6 ♖e8 24. ♖f1± With a clearly better endgame due to the bad pawnstructure of Black.] **19. ♖a3! ♖g5** [19... f6 20. ♖g3+ ♖h8 (20... ♖f7?? 21. ♖h5#) 21. ♖xe6 ♖xe6 22. ♖xe6±] **20. ♖g3 ♖g4 21. h3 ♖xe5 22. ♖xe5 ♖fe8 23. ♖xg4+ ♖f8 24. ♖xe8+ ♖xe8 25. ♖f1 ♖e5 26. ♖d4 ♖e7 27. f4 ♖c5 28. c3±** White is better because of the afore-mentioned reason. The 34th example of the „Hard section” shows the end of this game.

[46]

▷ D. Wegener (2364)
▶ L. D. Nisipeanu (2638)
German league
26.02.2012

27. ♖e6+!! Pretty escape! **27... ♖xe6 28. ♖f8+ ♖d7 29. ♖e7+ ♖c8** [29... ♖c6 30. ♖xe6+ ♖c5 31. ♖e7+ ♖b6 32. ♖d6+=] **30. ♖xe6+ ♖b8 31. ♖d6+ ♖a7 1/2:1/2** [31... ♖a7 32. ♖d4+ ♖b8 33. ♖d8+ ♖a7 34. ♖d4+ b6 35. ♖d7+=]

[47]

▷ L. Lenic (2637)
▶ V. Kunin (2537)
Austrian league
01.03.2012

38... ♖f6! [38... f6 also gave an advantage, but less clear after 39. ♖d2!; 38... ♖xd7 39. cxd7 ♖f6 40. ♖f2! e5 41. ♖xe5! ♖xe5 42. d8Q+ ♖g8 43. ♖e7=] **39. ♖f2!** [39. ♖xe5 ♖xe5+ 39... ♖xd7! 40. ♖xf6 ♖xc3! 41. ♖xh6

[41. cxd7? ♖xf6] **41... ♖c7+** White has serious problems with bringing back the h6 rook to the game. **42. ♖h5 ♖d2! 43. h4 g4! 44. c5 b5!-+**

[48]

▷ J. Tomczak (2555)
▶ D. Pulvett (2340)
Cappelle la Grande
03.03.2012

15. ♖d5!! Actually this move was a novelty! According to my database, in the previous 5 games White played differently. **15... exd5 16. ♖xd5 ♖b6** [16... ♖b7 17. e6! ♖d6 (17... ♖b6 18. exf7+ ♖h8 19. ♖xb7 ♖xb7 20. ♖xe7 ♖xd4 21. ♖ad1 ♖c4



22. ♖e3! is the most precise, Black loses one of his knights (22. ♖xd7 ♖xf7±) **22... ♖dc5 (22... ♖bc5 23. b3! ♖xc2 24. b4+-) 23. b4! (23. ♖d4 ♖e6) 23... ♖xb4 24. ♖d4!+-) 18. exf7+ ♖h8 19. ♖xb7 ♖xb7 20. ♖e6+-; 16... ♖b8 17. ♖f5+- e6 in the next move wins the game.; 16... ♖a7 17. ♖c6+-] **17. e6 ♖d6 18. ♖xd6 ♖xd6 19. ♖f5! ♖xd5 20. ♖e7+ ♖h8 21. ♖xd5+-****

[49]

▷ B. Valuet (2318)
 ▶ V. Durarbayli (2543)
 Cappelle la Grande
 03.03.2012

15... ♖xe5! 16.dxe5 ♖c6! 17.f3 [17.
 ♖h3 ♖xc4 18.exf6 ♙xf6 19.♗d6
 ♖c6 20.♗xb7 ♖xb7±; 17.♖f3 ♖xc4
 (17...♗e4!?) 18.♖xb7 ♖xb5 19.♖xe7
 ♖xe5± (19...♗d5 20.♖a3 ♖fc8±)] 17...
 ♖c5+ 18.♙e3 ♖xe5±

[50]

▷ C. Koepke (2404)
 ▶ J. Pinter (2546)
 Austrian league
 04.03.2012

23.♙xg5! ♖xg5 24.♙xf7+! ♖xf7
 25.♖xg5 ♙xg5 26.♖xe8+-

[51]

▷ A. Shneider (2529)
 ▶ P. Grandadam (2189)
 Cappelle la Grande
 04.03.2012

22.♗g5! h6 23.♗xf7+! ♖xf7 24.♖xe6
 c3 [24...♖d7 25.♙xd5+-; 24...♖e7
 25.♖xd5 ♖xd5 26.♖xd5±] 25.bxc3
 ♖e7 26.♖xd5 ♖xe5 27.♖xb7+-

[52]

▷ M. Tazbir (2513)
 ▶ B. Amin (2608)
 Cappelle la Grande
 05.03.2012

27... ♖xe4! 28.f5 [28.♙xe4 ♙xe4+
 29.♗hf3 ♖xb1-+; 28.bxc4 ♖xe2+

29.♗xe2 ♙xc2-+] 28... ♖xe2+
 29.♗xe2 ♖xc2 [29...♖e8!?-+ is ob-
 jectively even better, but both moves
 definately wins the game.] 30.♖xc2
 ♗e3+ 31.♙f2 ♗xc2 32.fxf6 ♙e5
 33.gxf7+ ♙xf7-+

[53]

▷ T. Sanikidze (2549)
 ▶ P. Harikrishna (2648)
 Cappelle la Grande
 05.03.2012

55...h5! [55...♙e7? 56.d5; 55...♙d5?
 56.♙d3] 56.♙d2 h4 57.♙e2 h3 58.♙f2
 h2 59.♙g2 b5! 60.axb5 a4 61.b6 a3
 62.b7 ♙c7 63.f6 a2 64.f7 h1Q+! 0-1

[54]

▷ P. Harikrishna (2678)
 ▶ V. Zakhartsov (2563)
 Cappelle la Grande
 06.03.2012

56.♙f5!! ♙xb5+ [56...♙xf5 57.♗xf5+-
] 57.♙f2 ♙d4 58.♗g4+-

[55]

▷ Nguyen Ngoc Truong Son (2662)
 ▶ Li Shilong (2549)
 HD Bank Cup
 06.03.2012

15.♙h6!! [15.♖xa8? ♖xf1+! 16.♙xf1
 ♙a6+ 17.♙e1 ♖xa8±; 15.♗g5? ♗f6!
 16.♖xa8 ♖xf1+ 17.♙xf1 ♙a6+ 18.♙e1
 ♖xa8±] 15... ♙a6 [15...♖d5 16.♖g4
 g6 17.♙xf8 ♙xf8 18.♖fc1±; 15...
 gxh6 16.♖xa8±] 16.♖g4! g6 17.♖fc1
 ♖d5 18.♙xf8 ♖xf8 19.♖g5 ♖d6
 20.♖g3+-

(56)

- ▷ Sokolov, And (2577)
 ▶ V. Neverov (2544)
 Cappelle la Grande
 07.03.2012

52. ♖xa6! ♙xa6 53. ♙xd5+! ♖h8 [53... cxd5 54. ♖xc7 ♙xb4 55. ♖xh7 ♖xh7 56. ♖c7+ ♖h6 57.e6+-] 54. ♙xc6 ♖e7 55.d5 ♖xb4 56.d6+-

(57)

- ▷ A. Zherebukh (2642)
 ▶ A. Vul (2318)
 Cappelle la Grande
 07.03.2012

21. ♙xf4! ♖xf4 22. ♖g5! g6 23. ♙xe6 ♖xe6 24. ♖xe6 fxe6 25. ♖e4!?± [25. ♖xe6±]

(58)

- ▷ I. Cheparinov (2664)
 ▶ K. Akshayraj (2422)
 Reykjavik Open Reykjavik ISL
 08.03.2012

28. ♖xb6!! ♖xb6 29. ♙xa5 ♖b8 30. ♖xc6 ♖d6 31. ♖dc1! The key move! Black cannot prevent e5! The knights are on really unfortunate places. 31... ♖b7 [31...e5 32. ♖xd6 ♙xd6 33. ♖c6 ♙c7 34. ♖c5!+-] 32.e5 1-0

(59)

- ▷ H. Steingrimsen (2556)
 ▶ Fl. Perez (2269)
 Reykjavik Open
 08.03.2012

14.c5! bxc5 15. ♖xe6! ♖xe6 16. ♙b3+-

(60)

- ▷ Grettarsson, HJ (2460)
 ▶ E. Vaarala (2241)
 Reykjavik Open
 09.03.2012

16.exf6! ♖h3 [16... ♙f3 17. ♖f4! ♙xd1 18.fxe7 ♖e8 19. ♖xd1 ♖xe7 20. ♖e4±] 17. ♖e2!! g5 [17... ♙f3 18. ♖f4 ♙xd1 19. ♖xd1+-] 18. ♙xg5! ♙c5 19. ♖f4 ♖g4 20. ♙h6 ♙f3 21. ♙xf8 ♙xd1 22. ♖xd1 ♖xd1+ 23. ♖xd1 ♖xf8 24. ♖d7+- I hope, when you decided to take on f6, you have seen the 17. ♖f4! and 17. ♖e2!! moves.

(61)

- ▷ Z. Kozul (2602)
 ▶ A. Brkic (2587)
 Zagreb
 10.03.2012

17. ♖xh8+! ♖xh8 18. ♖f4!! ♖c7 [18... ♖e6 19. ♖xf7 ♖xe4+ 20. ♖d2 ♖xa2+ 21. ♖c2+-] 19. ♙f6+? [White missed 19. ♖h2+! ♖g7 (19... ♖g8 20. ♙f4!+-) 20. ♙h6+ ♖g8 21. ♙f4+-] 19... ♖g8 20. ♖h2? 1-0 Black resigned in almost winning position. Dubious play by strong GMS. [20. ♖h2? ♙h3!! 21.gxh3 (21. ♖xh3 ♖xf6+-) 21...dxe4±]

(62)

- ▷ D. Navara (2700)
 ▶ I. Sokolov (2653)
 Reykjavik Open
 10.03.2012

23...d5! 24. ♙b3 [24.exd5? ♖xe1+-+] 24... ♖xe4 25. ♖xe4 dxe4 26. ♖f5

(67)

- ▷ Cs. Balogh (2664)
 ▶ A. Sharafiev (2433)
 European Championship
 20.03.2012

Mate in two : 36... ♖c8+!! [36... ♖xb6 seems to win as well, but...you will find it in the „Hard section“, 46th example.] 37. ♜xc8 b5#

(68)

- ▷ G. Guseinov (2616)
 ▶ Y. Erturan (2370)
 European Championship
 20.03.2012

20.d5! exd5 [20... ♖xd5 21. ♖d1! ♖c6 22. ♖d6+-] 21.e6! ♖c6 [21... ♖c7 22. ♜f7+-] 22. ♖e5+- [22. ♜f7+-]

(69)

- ▷ Da. Klein (2418)
 ▶ Iv. Saric (2649)
 European Championship
 20.03.2012

31. ♖h8! ♜c7 32. ♖xg8 ♖xg8 33. ♜xf5!! exf5 34.e6+ ♜c8 35.exd7+ ♖xd7 36. ♖h1± [36. ♖f2 was even better, operating on the dark squares 36... ♜b8 (36... ♖xg7? 37. ♖c5+ ♜b8 38. ♖f8++-) 37. ♖h2+! ♜a7 38. ♖h7 ♖d8 39. ♜e2+-]

(70)

- ▷ Ad. Bach (2264)
 ▶ D. Lintchevski (2564)
 European Championship
 20.03.2012

13. ♜xe6! fxe6 14. ♖xe6! ♜h8 [Computer defends with the unreal 14... ♜h2+!! 15. ♜xh2 ♜h8 but White preserves the advantage after the very strong 16. ♜f4!± ♜e4 17.g3 ♜xf2 18. ♖f3±] 15. ♖xd6 ♖e7 16. ♖e6 ♖b4 17. ♜xf6 [17. ♜b3+-] 17... ♖xc4 18. ♜xh7 ♖xe6 19. ♜xf8 ♖xf8 20. ♜e3±

(71)

- ▷ V. Kotronias (2597)
 ▶ D. Lomsadze (2338)
 European Championship
 21.03.2012

Black seems to be in deep trouble, but a nice combination saves him. 21... ♜xd4!! White was so shocked after 21... ♜xd4, that instead of making a draw he preferred to make some complications which were clearly bad for him. 22. ♜1h2 [22.cxd4 ♖g7 23. ♜e3 (23. ♜g3?! fxc3 24. ♖g1 ♖h6±) 23... fxe3 24. ♖g1 ♖h6 25. ♖xg8+ ♜xg8=; 22. ♜xd4 ♖g7 23. ♜g3 fxc3 24. ♖xg3 (24.f4 ♖h6 25. ♜g2 ♖xf4) 24... ♜xd4 25. ♖xg7+ ♜xg7 26.cxd4 ♜f7=] 22... ♜xf2 23. ♖e6? [23. ♖e2 ♜e3 24. ♜g4 White has enough compensation to make a draw.] 23... ♜d8! 24. ♖e2 ♜e3 25.c4 [25. ♜g4 ♖c6!+-] 25... ♖g3±

(72)

- ▷ Gy. Pap (2538)
 ▶ I. Khenkin (2632)
 European Championship
 21.03.2012

22. ♜f5+! ♖xf5 [22... gxf5 23. ♖h3+ ♜g6 24. ♖xh7+ ♜g5 25. ♖g7+

♔f6 26. ♖h6++-] 23. ♜xf5 gxf5
24. ♜xb7+- ♜f7 [24... ♜ae8 25.e5+-]
25. ♖g3 fxe4 26. ♜xe7! ♜af8 [26...
♜xe7 27. ♖h4+-] 27.h4! 1-0

(73)

▷ E. Safarli (2645)
▶ D. Agaragimov (2342)
European Championship

20.03.2012

30. ♜f5!! gxf5 [30... ♜xf5 31.exf5+-]
31.exf5 ♖f7 [31... ♖d8 32. ♖d5+-]
32. ♖xa8+-

(74)

▷ H. Stefansson (2531)
▶ Bo. Vuckovic (2628)
European Championship
21.03.2012

24.d6!! ♜xd2 [24...exd6 25. ♜d5!
♜xd2 (25... ♜g7 26. ♜xa5+-) 26. ♜f6+
♔f8 27. ♜xe8+-] 25. ♜d5 [25. ♖xd2
was also strong 25... ♖f5 26. ♜d5
♜c6 27. ♜xe7+ (27.dxe7±) 27... ♜xe7
28.dxe7±] 25... ♜c6 [25... ♜h6 26.d7!
♖xd7 27. ♜f6+ exf6 28. ♖xd7+-]
26. ♖xd2 ♜e5? [26... ♖d8! 27.dxe7
(27.d7 ♜f8) 27... ♖d6 28. ♜d1! ♜xe7
29. ♜e1±] 27. ♖e3 exd6 28. ♜f6+ 1-0

(75)

▷ S. Sulskis (2596)
▶ A. Boruchovsky (2333)
European Championship
20.03.2012

20... ♜a6!! 21. ♜d1 tricky move, Black
must be careful. [21. ♜xe5 ♜xe5±]
21...h6! [21... ♜xc7? 22. ♜xc7!! ♜xc7
23. ♜d8+ ♜f8 24. ♜h6+-] 22. ♜xe5

♜xe5 23.g3 ♜xc7 24. ♜d8+ ♔g7
25. ♜xc7 ♜xc7 26. ♜a8 ♜b6±

(76)

▷ T. Antal (2352)
▶ D. Zoler (2541)
European Championship
22.03.2012

15...g5! 16. ♜e3 ♜xe5! 17. ♜c3 [17.
♖xe5 ♜f6+-] 17... ♜f6±

(77)

▷ N. Grandelius (2545)
▶ H. Melkumyan (2628)
European Championship
22.03.2012

11. ♜b5! Famous trick! Sometimes the
same idea works with ♜xd5 as well.
11...cxb5 [11... ♜f8 12. ♜c7 ♖e8 13. ♜d6
♜xd6 14. ♜xd6+-; 11... ♜b7 12. ♜c7+-]
12. ♜c7 ♜b4+! 13.axb4 ♖e7 14. ♖b3
♜b7 15. ♜xb5±

(78)

▷ A. Korobov (2679)
▶ I. Nyzhnyk (2585)
European Championship
22.03.2012

59...d2!! [59...e3! also works with
similar idea 60. ♜xd3 (60. ♜xg2? d2)
60...♜g3!! Due to the ♜f4 threat,
the Black king reaches the f2 square,
which secures the draw.] 60. ♜xd2+
e3 61. ♜a5 [61. ♜c1 ♜g3!=] 61...e2!
62. ♜xg2 ♜g3! 1/2-1/2 Draw agreed.
♜f2 is coming next.

(79)

▷ S. Movsesian (2702)
 ▶ V. Kotronias (2597)
 European Championship
 22.03.2012

21.b4! cxb4 [21... ♖c7 22.b5!+-]
22. ♖xd4 ♖fc8 23. ♖b3+-

(80)

▷ A. Istratescu (2633)
 ▶ Ant. Pavlidis (2431)
 European Championship
 23.03.2012

16.c5! bxc5 17.dxc5 [17. ♖c4+ ♖h8
 18. ♜xh7!+-] **17... ♖c7** [17... ♜xc5
 18. ♖c4+ ♖h8 19. ♜xh7+-; 17... ♖xc5
 18. ♖c4+ ♖h8 19. ♜xh7+-] **18. ♖c4+**
♖h8 19. ♜xh7+-

(81)

▷ N. Sedlak (2593)
 ▶ T. Petenyi (2359)
 European Championship
 23.03.2012

33... ♜xd4 [33... ♜e5!! was the only way to win! Black collects the g6 pawn, after which his king gets „air” on h7. 34. ♖c8 (34. ♖e6 ♜c4+! 35. ♖a4 ♖xa2+-) 34... ♜xg6!-+] **34.exd4 ♖f3+ 35. ♖a4 ♖xa2+ 36. ♖b5** Unbelievable, but there is no mate... **36... ♖b2+** [36... ♖b3+ 37. ♖c6 ♖a6+ (37... ♖b6+ 38. ♖xd5 ♖b3+ 39. ♖d6 ♖b6+=) 38. ♖c7 ♖b6+ 39. ♖c8 ♖xg6 40. ♖xd5=] **37. ♖a5!** [37. ♖c6? ♖b6+ 38. ♖c7 ♖f4+ 39. ♖d8 ♖f8+ 40. ♖e8 (40. ♖c7 ♖b8#) 40... ♖b8+-+] **37... ♖a2+** [37... ♖a3+? 38. ♖a4] **38. ♖b5**

♖b2+ 39. ♖a5 ♖a2+ 40. ♖b5 ♖b2+
41. ♖a5 1/2-1/2

(82)

▷ I. Popov (2605)
 ▶ Ni. Djukic (2513)
 European Championship
 24.03.2012

34. ♜c8!! ♖f2 [34... ♖xe4 35. ♖d8 ♖f8 36. ♖xe8+! ♖xe8 37. ♜d6++-; 34... ♖xb2 35. ♖d8 ♖f7 36. ♖f3+-] **35. ♖d8 ♖f8 36. ♖c7** [36. ♖cd3+- was easier. Black is in zugzwang! ♖d6 followed by ♖xe6 is coming.] **36... ♖d2!** Nice trick, unfortunately for Black, he remains in zugzwang. **37. ♖xd2 ♜xc7 38. ♖d8+! ♜e8 39.b4** Black resigned. He could only pass with the rook, while the White king marches to c5. [39.b4 ♖a8 40.h4 ♖b8 41. ♖g2 ♖a8 42. ♖f2 ♖b8 43. ♖e2 ♖a8 44. ♖d3 ♖b8 45. ♖c4 ♖a8 46. ♖c5+-]

(83)

▷ C. Braun (2372)
 ▶ D. Navara (2700)
 European Championship
 25.03.2012

29... ♖d2! [29... ♖ee2 30. ♖c1 h5+] **30. ♖hh1 ♖xh4!** Funny situation of the rooks! **31. ♜c4 ♖xd1+ 32. ♖xd1 ♜e4 0-1**

(84)

▷ V. Durarbayli (2543)
 ▶ A. Beliavsky (2630)
 European Championship
 25.03.2012

35. ♖f1!! Only this silent move wins the game! 35... ♖f6 [35... ♖d8 36. ♗xd6+-; 35... ♖e7 36. ♗xd6+-] 36. ♗xc6+-

(85)

▷ A. Naiditsch (2702)
▶ I. Sokolov (2653)
European Championship
25.03.2012

27. ♖xg6! [27. ♗f3±] 27... ♖xd1+ 28. ♖xd1 hxg6 29. ♖xd6! ♗c7 [29... ♗xd6 30. ♖f7+-] 30. ♖xg6 ♖a6 31. ♖xa6! [31. ♗h5+?? ♖g8 32. ♖xa6 ♗c1+! 33. ♖h2 ♗f4+=] 31... bxa6 [31... ♗c1+ 32. ♖h2+-] 32. ♗h5+ ♖g8 33. ♗h7+ ♖f8 34. ♖e6+ 1-0

(86)

▷ R. Rapport (2553)
▶ D. Kadric
European Championship
25.03.2012

52. ♖xe8! ♖a1+ 53. ♖h2 a2 54. ♖h8! ♖h1+ 55. ♖xh1 a1Q+ 56. ♖h2+- ♖g7 57. ♖bg8+! ♖h6 [57... ♖f7 58. ♖d6+ ♖e7 59. ♖d8!+-] 58. ♖g6+ ♖h5 59. ♖e3! ♗b2 60. ♖h3 1-0

(87)

▷ E. Sutovsky (2700)
▶ Z. Kozul (2602)
European Championship
25.03.2012

28. ♖xf6! ♖xf6 29. ♖c5! ♖h4 [29... ♗c8 30. ♖d7!+-] 30. ♗xh4+-

(88)

▷ E. Can (2476)
▶ T. Nyback (2636)
European Championship
27.03.2012

27... ♖xe5! 28. dxe5 ♗b6+! 29. ♖e1 [29. ♖f1 ♖de3+-] 29... ♖f4! 30. ♗e4 [30. ♗xf5 ♖xg2+ 31. ♖f1 (31. ♖d2 ♗e3#) 31... ♖e3+-]



30... ♖xg2+ [30... ♖c2!! would have been the worthy finish of the game! 31. ♗xc2 (31. ♗xf4 ♗g1+ 32. ♖f1 ♗f2#) 31... ♖xg2+ 32. ♖d2 ♗e3#] 31. ♖d2 g6+

(89)

▷ A. Cioara (2477)
▶ M. Roiz (2652)
European Championship
27.03.2012

22. ♖d5! ♖xf2+ [22... ♖xd5 23. ♗xd5+-] 23. ♖h1 ♖xd5 24. ♗xd5 ♗b7 25. ♗f7! ♖c5 26. e5 ♖f8 27. ♗xg7 ♖e7 28. e6+-

(90)

▷ R. Hovhannisyan (2600)
▶ N. Vitiugov (2709)
European Championship
27.03.2012

Seems to be quite hard to make progress, but Black has very strong option! 46...♖c8!! This is the key! But it can be played after different kind of checks as well. [46...♗e2+ 47.♕h4 ♗e1+ 48.♕g4 ♗d1+ 49.♕h4 ♖c8-+] 47.♗e5 [47.♗f6 ♗e2+! 48.♕h4 ♗h5+! 49.♕g3 ♖c3+-+] 47...♗g1+! 48.♕f3 [48.♕h4 ♗h2+ 49.♕g4 ♗h5+ 50.♕g3 ♖c3+-+] 48...♗h1+ [48...♖c3+ 49.♕e4 ♗g2+ 50.♕xd4 ♗d2+ 51.♕e4 ♖e3#] 49.♕e2 ♗g2+ 50.♕d1 ♗c2+ 51.♕e1 ♗b1+ 52.♕e2 ♖c2+ 53.♕d3 ♖c3+ o-1

(91)

▷ D. Navara (2700)
▶ V. Jianu (2497)
European Championship
27.03.2012

34.♖b1! exd4+ 35.♕f4! ♕f7
36.♕xg5+-

(92)

▷ Ni. Djukic (2513)
▶ C. Ali Marandi (2315)
European Championship
28.03.2012

30.♖xe4! g6! [30...dxe4 31.♜g5 h6 32.♜xh6+ gxh6 33.♗g6+ ♕h8 34.♗h7#] 31.♗h6 dxe4 32.♜g5 ♗xd4+ [32...♗d7 33.♜f6+ ♖xf6 34.exf6+-] 33.♕h2 ♗d7 34.♜f6+ ♖xf6 35.exf6 ♖f8 36.f7+ [Here White missed the forced win 36.♖d1! ♕d5 37.♜xe6!! ♖xf6 38.♖xd5! ♗xe6 39.♖d8+ ♕f7 40.♗f8#] 36...♖xf7 37.♜xf7 ♗xf7 38.♗g5±

(93)

▷ S. Movsesian (2702)
▶ L. Pantsulaia (2595)
European Championship
28.03.2012

30.♗d6+!! ♗xd6 [30...♕g8 31.♗xe6 fxe6 32.♖ff7+-] 31.♖xf7+ 1-o [31.♖xf7+ ♕g8 32.♖xg7+ ♕f8 33.♖df7#]

(94)

▷ A. Berescu (2494)
▶ S. Ernst (2578)
European Championship
29.03.2012

33...♕xe5! 34.♕xa7 [34.fxe5 ♜xe5+-; 34.♖xe7 ♕d6 35.♖e4 ♖b1+ 36.♕g2 ♖c1-+] 34...♖b1+ 35.♕f2 ♕d6 36.♕d4 f6+-

(95)

▷ D. Khismatullin (2656)
▶ A. Mastrovasilis (2510)
European Championship
29.03.2012

23.♜d8!! ♖g7 [23...♖f8 24.♜ce6 ♕xe6 25.♜xe6 ♖f7 26.f5+-] 24.♖e1!+- ♜d5 25.♖e8+ ♕h7 26.♜de6 ♕xe6 27.♜xe6 1-o

(96)

▷ Vu. Rasulov (2526)
▶ A. Mista (2587)
European Championship
29.03.2012

46...♕h6!! The easiest and the nicest win. [46...♗f6+-] 47.♗e1 [47.♗xc3 bxc3 48.♕xf3 c2 49.♖a1 d2-+] 47...d2! 48.♗e7+ ♕g7+-

(97)

▷ D. Lintchevski (2564)

► A. Cioara (2477)

European Championship

30.03.2012

Seems like too many pieces are hanging, but... **31.f5!!** **♔d4+** [31... ♖e7 32.fxg6 hxg6 33. ♖d6+ ♕d8 34. ♔f3+- (34. ♔xg6 ♖e2+ 35. ♖g1 ♔d4+ 36. ♖h1+-); 31... gxf5 32. ♖g5++-] **32. ♖g2** **♖e3** **33.fxg6** **hxg6** **34. ♔xg6+** The human win, but computer shows 34. ♖d6+ to be even stronger. [34. ♖d6+ ♕d8 35. ♖f8+ ♕c7 36. ♖f7+ ♕b6 37. ♖xb7+ ♕a6 38. ♔g4+-]

(98)

▷ M. Mchedlishvili (2626)

► R. Rapport (2559)

European Championship

30.03.2012

There is only one win in the position:
42. ♖g2+! **♕f5** [42... ♖g4 43. h3+-]
43. ♖g7!! and the ♖g6 mate can be only avoided with a piece sacrifice.
43... ♖g4 **44. h3+-** [44. ♖c2+ was more direct win 44... e4 45. ♖c8+ ♕f6 (45... ♕e5 46. ♖e7+ ♕f6 (46... ♕xd5 47. ♖c4#) 47. ♖e6+ ♕g5 48. ♖g7+ ♕h4 49. ♖e7+-) 46. ♖f8+ ♕e5 47. ♖e7+ ♕d4 48. ♖xf4+-]

(99)

▷ B. Socko (2647)

► V. Popov (2546)

European Championship

30.03.2012

Seems like, due to the two bishops White has a longterm advantage, but

as usual one small tactic might easily change the evaluation. **22... ♖e4!!** **23. dxe4** [23. ♔xe4 fxe4 24. ♖xf8+ ♖xf8=; 23. ♖g2 ♔xg3+!] **23... fxe4** **24. ♖e1** White lays a trap, but Black calculated one move further! **24... ♔xb2!** **25. ♔b4** White was hoping for winning some material with the pins, but...



25... exf3! **26. ♖xf3** **♖xe1!** **27. ♖xf8+** **♕g7+** and Black ended up with an extra pawn.

(100)

▷ E. Najer (2640)

► M. Vachier Lagrave (2682)

European Championship

31.03.2012

29.f4! [29. ♖a8+?! ♕e7 30. ♖xa6 ♖c1 31. ♕d2 ♖b1 is unclear.] **29... exf4** **30.e5!** [30. ♖xf4 ♖h2+ 31. ♕f1±] **30... fxg3** [30... ♖c1 31. exd6+-; 30... f3+ 31. ♖xf3 ♖h2+ 32. ♕d1 ♖h1+ 33. ♕d2 ♖h2+ 34. ♕c3+-] **31. ♖xf7** **♖h2+** **32. ♕e1** **g2** [32... ♖h1+ 33. ♕d2 ♖h2+ 34. ♕c3+-] **33. ♖f8+!** **♕d7** **34.e6+** 1-0 [34.e6+ ♕e7 35. ♖f7+ ♕d8 36. ♖a8+ ♖c8 37. ♖d7+ ♕e8 38. ♖xc8#]

(101)

- ▷ A. Shabalov (2523)
▶ T. Gelashvili (2618)

Philadelphia

06.04.2012

There are many tempting moves, but only one of them is good! **19. ♖e6!!** [19. ♖xf7 ♜xf7 20. ♙e6+ ♜xe6 21. dxe6+ ♜xe6 I was unable to find way to continue the attack. Black king is quickly running back to f7-g8...] **19... fxe6** [19... ♜e7 20. d6+-] **20. dxe6 ♙c6** [20... cxb3 was probably the most critical line, but still after some exact moves White achieves an advantage 21. ♜xb3 ♖c5 22. ♜a2! ♜e7 23. ♙d6 ♜xd6 24. e7+! (24. ♜xd6 ♙xd6 25. e7+ ♜h8 26. ♙xc8 ♙xc8 27. ♜xa7±) 24... ♖d5 25. ♖xd5 ♜h8 26. ♙xc8 ♜xc8 27. ♜fe1±] **21. bxc4!** Cold-blooded reaction! Black can not leave the pins. **21... ♙b4** [21... ♜e7 22. exd7 ♙xd7 23. ♙g5±] **22. exd7 ♖xd7 23. ♖d5 ♙c5 24. ♙f5! h6**



25. ♙xh6! gxh6 26. ♙xd7! ♜g5 [26... ♙xd7 27. ♜g6+ ♜h8 28. ♖f6+-] **27. ♙xc8 ♜xc8 28. ♜e4+-**

(102)

- ▷ L. Vajda (2597)
▶ C. Zeng (2435)

Doeberl Cup

08.04.2012

31. ♖xe5! [31. d7+ ♜d8∞] **31... ♜xd6** [31... ♜xc5 32. ♜a8+ ♜b8 33. d7+! ♜d8 34. ♜xb8+ ♜e7 35. ♜xf8+! ♜xf8 36. d8Q+-+] **32. ♖cd7!** [32. ♖ed7+- is the same.] **32... ♜xd7** [32... ♙xd7 33. ♜a8+ ♜b8 34. ♜xb8#] **33. ♜a8+ 1-o** [33. ♜a8+ ♜b8 34. ♜xb8+! ♜xb8 35. ♖xd7+ ♜c8 36. ♖xf8+-]

(103)

- ▷ J. Bosch (2386)
▶ V. Shishkin (2464)

Deizisau

09.04.2012

10... ♖c5!! 11. ♙d3 [11. ♜c2 ♙xd4!±; 11. dxc5 ♙xc3+-; 11. ♜e3 h6! 12. ♙f4 ♖e6±] **11... ♖b3! 12. axb3 ♜xa1+-**

(104)

- ▷ A. Morozevich (2765)
▶ D. Jakovenko (2729)

Russian league

10.04.2012

19. e6!! ♙xe6 [19... ♖xe6 20. ♜fe1+-] **20. ♖xe6** [20. ♜fe1? o-o-o!] **20... ♖xe6 21. ♜xd5±** It is enough to stop your calculations here. Easy to feel, that the Black king will not find shelter in this game due to the strong a3 bishop. **21... ♜d8 22. ♜b3** [22. ♜b5+!? ♜d7 23. ♜b3±] **22... h5** [22... ♜b8 23. ♜a4+ ♜d7 24. ♜e4±] **23. ♜fe1 ♜h6 24. ♜b4! ♜d7 25. ♜ac1 ♜b8 26. ♜a4+ ♜c8 27. ♙b4 1-o**

[105]

▷ A. Korobov (2679)

▶ M. Panarin (2523)

Russian league

12.04.2012

32... ♖e5!! The only move to not lose, but it also gives some advantage for Black. 33. ♜xd5 ♖xg3 34. ♜f6? White was still ambitious and missed another tactic. [He should have played 34. ♜xb6 axb6 35. fxg3 ♜d6 with good drawing chances, but Black can still press a bit.] 34... ♖xf2+! 35. ♖xf2 ♜f7 36. ♜e6 ♜d4! 37. ♜d6 ♜b5! 0-1 Resigned, because ♖g7 is coming next.

[106]

▷ Young, An (2321)

▶ E. Sevillano (2502)

Saint Louis

12.04.2012

16... ♜a5+!! 17. b4 [17. ♜c3 exd4 18. ♜xd4 ♖f6 19. ♜d2 ♜xc3!-+] 17... ♜xa2!! 18. ♜b3 [18. ♜xa2 ♜c1+-+; 18. f3 ♜xa1+ 19. ♖f2 ♖d7-+] 18... ♜xa1+! 0-1

[107]

▷ P. Acs (2587)

▶ D. Howell (2633)

German league

15.04.2012

54... ♖e4? was tempting, but leads to draw. [54... d2+! Or 54... ♖d7! was the way to win. 55. ♖d1 ♖d7! 56. ♜d8 ♖a4+ 57. ♖e2 ♖b5+! The keymove! 58. ♖d1 ♖xa6-+] 55. ♜d8! d2+

56. ♖d1 ♖f3+ 57. ♖c2 ♖e4+ 58. ♖d1 ♖b3 59. ♜b8+! ♖c4 60. ♜d8=

[108]

▷ J. Granda Zuniga (2640)

▶ G. Milos (2593)

Iberoamericano Championship

15.04.2012

27... ♜xg2!! 28. ♖xg2 ♖xg4! 29. ♖xg4 ♜xg4+ 30. ♖h1 [30. ♖h3 ♜g3+! 31. ♖h2 ♜g5! 32. ♖xg3 ♜xg3+ 33. ♖h1 ♜h3+ 34. ♖g1 ♜g8+ 35. ♖f2 ♜e3#; 30. ♖f3 ♜g2-+] 30... ♜g6! With this important silent move, Black brings his heavy artillery to the game. [30... ♜g5! was also good with the same idea.] 31. ♜a2 ♜g8-+

[109]

▷ D. Jakovenko (2729)

▶ E. Sutovsky (2700)

Russian league

15.04.2012

48... ♜h1!! Picturesque only move! 49. ♜c2! was also necessary. [49. ♖xh1? ♜xf2-+] 49... ♖f5 [49... ♜b6 50. ♖xh1 ♜xb7+=] 50. ♜e2 ♜b6 51. ♖xh1 ♜xb7+= and soon agreed to draw.

[110]

▷ R. Kasimdzahov (2678)

▶ A. Postojev (2330)

German league

15.04.2012

25. ♜c4!! The ♜d6 threat forces Black to give up his structure and open the diagonal of the g2 bishop. 25... dxc4 26. bxc4

♖c7 27.cxb5 axb5 28.♖a6 [White could have won a pawn after 28.♖a7! ♜f6 29.♖xc7 ♜xc7 30.♜f3! and a double-threat is coming in both lines. 30...♖c8 (30...♜d5 31.♜h5!+-) 31.♜e3!+-] 28...♖ec8 29.e4± with big advantage.

(111)

▷ M. Mozharov (2474)

▶ V. Malakhov (2705)

Russian league

15.04.2012

41...♜g4+!! 42.hxg4 ♜h6+ White can not escape from the perpetual check. 43.♜g1 ♜e3+! [43...♜c1+? 44.♜f1 ♜e3+ 45.♜g2 ♜d2+ 46.♜f3! ♜c3+ 47.♜e2 ♜c2+ 48.♜e3+-] 44.♜f1 ♜c1+ [44...♜d3+=] 45.♜f2 ♜d2+ 46.♜g1 ♜e3+ 47.♜h2 ♜h6+ 48.♜h3 ♜d2+ 49.♜g1 ♜e3+ 50.♜h2 1/2-1/2

(112)

▷ P. Tregubov (2599)

▶ A. Morozevich (2765)

Russian league

15.04.2012

37...♖f5!! [37...♖e6? 38.♖xd6!±] 38.♖fd1 [38.♖xf5 ♖e1+ 39.♜h2 ♜xf5-+] 38...♖xf6 39.♖xd6 ♖xd6 [39...a3!? 40.♖d7+ ♖f7-+] 40.♖xd6 a3 41.♖a6 ♖e3± Black won the end-game with good technique.

(113)

▷ Y. Bacallao Alonso (2550)

▶ J. Gonzalez Garcia (2529)

Catalanian league

17.04.2012

33.♖xf7+!! ♜xf7 [33...♜g8 34.♜c6!+-] 34.fxe6+ ♜xe6 35.♜xd5+ ♜xd5 36.♖e1+! ♜d6 37.♜a6+-

(114)

▷ E. Ahmadinia (2379)

▶ B. Amin (2608)

Dubai Open

22.04.2012

18...♜xd4!! 19.♜xd4 [White could have resisted more with 19.♜g2 ♜xf3 20.♜xf3 ♜d7± But his position remains quite hopeless anyway.] 19...♜f5! 20.♜f4 g5!-+

(115)

▷ S. Movsesian (2715)

▶ D. Swiercz (2585)

Czech league

22.04.2012

29.♜xh7+! ♜xh7 30.♜d5+!! This is the point! The rooks are mating on the h-file! 30...♖f7 [30...♜f7 31.♖h8+ ♜g7 32.♖1h7#] 31.♜xf7+! 1-o[31.♜xf7+ ♜xf7 32.♖h8+ ♜g7 33.♖1h7#]

(116)

▷ J. Radulski (2552)

▶ K. Rusev (2516)

Bulgarian Championship

22.04.2012

16...♜xh3!! Beautiful motif! [Of course not 16...exd4?? 17.♜xe8+ ♜xe8 18.♖xe8#] 17.gxh3 exd4 18.♜f1 ♖xe1 19.♜xe1 d3! The passive White pieces are unable to protect the king. [19...♖e8? 20.♜f1!] 20.♜b3 [20.♜d1 ♖e8

21. ♖f1 ♜e4--+] 20... ♖f3 21. ♙e3 ♜e8
22. ♜d2 ♖xh3 0-1

[117]

▷ B. Bellahcene (2321)

▶ F. Handke (2525)

Lille Open

26.04.2012

24... ♜e1!! It is always a pleasure to make such a move! 25. ♖e2 ♜xd1
26. ♖xd1 ♜xg2 27. ♙xg2 ♖e5
28. ♙a3 ♖xe4+ 29. ♙h2 ♙xc4--+

[118]

▷ V. Nozdrachev (2449)

▶ A. Stukopin (2485)

Sochi

26.04.2012

18. ♜h6!! Really spectacular crushing move! [18. ♙h3 ♖b8 19. ♖d2± also with dangerous attack, but Black is alive.] 18... ♖c8 19. ♜xf6! gxf6 20. ♙h3! ♜b8 21. ♖xf6+ ♙c7
22. ♖e5+ ♙b6 23. ♙xd7 [23. ♜d6++-] 23... ♜xd7 24. ♖d6+ ♙b5 [24... ♖c6 25. ♖d4++-] 25. ♖xd7+ White went for easy winning endgame, instead of giving mate in few moves... [25. ♜d5+! ♜c5 26. a4++-] 25... ♖xd7 26. ♜xd7+-

[119]

▷ D. Collutiis (2493)

▶ M. Brunello (2263)

Italian league

28.04.2012

20. b4!! ♖xb4 [20... ♖c7 21. ♜cd5!+-]
21. ♜cd5! [21. ♜ed5! is the same.] 21...

exd5 22. ♜xd5 ♖c5 23. ♜xe7+ ♙h8
24. ♜d5 ♖c7 25. ♜xc8 ♜xc8 26. c5!+-

[120]

▷ A. Motylev (2683)

▶ Wan Yunguo (2441)

Chinese league

28.04.2012

25. ♜g5+! hxg5 26. hxg5+ ♙g8
27. ♜h2! ♜xd4 28. ♜ah1 ♜f3+
29. ♖xf3 1-0 [29. ♖xf3 ♜xf3 30. ♜h8+ ♜f7 31. ♜xd8+-]

[121]

▷ E. Safarli (2645)

▶ V. Rasulov (2526)

Nakhchivan Open

29.04.2012

36... ♙d3+!! 37. ♜xd3 ♜g1+!! 0-1 Followed by mate on the backrank.

[122]

▷ E. Sutovsky (2700)

▶ M. Olszewski (2539)

Italian league

29.04.2012

20. ♙xh7+! ♙xh7 21. ♖h5+ ♙g8
22. ♙xg7! ♙xg7 23. ♖g4+ ♙h7
24. ♖h5+ [It would be too greedy to play on win with 24. ♜e3?? ♜f3+ 25. ♜xf3 ♜g8--+] 24... ♙g7 25. ♖g4+ ♙h7 26. ♖h5+ ♙g7 27. ♖g4+ 1/2-1/2

— HARD —



[1]

▷ M. Carlsen (2835)

▶ L. Aronian (2805)

Wijk aan Zee

16.01.2012

1. +/-

**[2]**

▷ A. Motylev (2677)

▶ S. Tiviakov (2677)

Wijk aan Zee

17.01.2012

1. +/-

**[3]**

▷ L. Aronian (2805)

▶ F. Caruana (2736)

Wijk aan Zee

24.01.2012

1. +/-

**[4]**

▷ V. Ivanchuk (2766)

▶ A. Giri (2714)

Wijk aan Zee

24.01.2012

1. +/-



(5)

▷ L'E. Ami (2596)

► D. Harika (2516)

Wijk aan Zee

24.01.2012

1. +-

**(7)**

▷ S. Ernst (2606)

► P. Harikrishna (2665)

Wijk aan Zee

27.01.2012

1. +-

**(6)**

▷ F. Caruana (2736)

► A. Giri (2714)

Wijk aan Zee

27.01.2012

1. +/-

**(8)**

▷ S. Mamedyarov (2747)

► A. Zatonskih (2506)

Gibraltar

27.01.2012

1. +/-



[9]

- ▷ A. Aitbayev (2386)
 ▶ Timofeev, Arty (2659)

Moscow Open

28.01.2012

1... -/+

**[10]**

- ▷ G. Glidzhain (2381)
 ▶ V. Iordachescu (2651)

Moscow Open

28.01.2012

1... -/+

**[11]**

- ▷ Hou Yifan (2605)
 ▶ Le Quang Liem (2714)

Gibraltar

31.01.2012

1. =

**[12]**

- ▷ Ni Hua (2641)
 ▶ N. Kabanov (2522)

Moscow Open

31.01.2012

1. +-



[13]

▷ A. Lastin (2538)
 ▶ Arty Timofeev (2659)
 Moscow Open
 01.02.2012

1. +/-

**[14]**

▷ E. Berg (2550)
 ▶ M. Vachier Lagrave (2699)
 Gibraltar
 02.02.2012

1. +/-

**[15]**

▷ Alb. David (2598)
 ▶ Ar Salem (2505)
 Gibraltar
 02.02.2012

1... -+

**[16]**

▷ B. Savchenko (2609)
 ▶ A. Goganov (2497)
 Moscow Open
 03.02.2012

1. -/+



[17]

▷ L. D. Nisipeanu (2638)

▶ A. Lauber (2464)

German league

04.02.2012

1. +/-

**[19]**

▷ F. Vallejo Pons (2716)

▶ H. Melkumyan (2619)

German league

24.02.2012

1. +/-

**[18]**

▷ M. Vachier Lagrave (2715)

▶ A. Giri (2722)

German league

04.02.2012

1. +/-

**[20]**

▷ I. Cheparinov (2659)

▶ P. Drenchev (2493)

Tringov memorial

05.02.2012

1. +/-



[21]

▷ H. Melkumyan (2619)

▶ C. Lupulescu (2655)

German league

05.02.2012

1. +/-

**[22]**

▷ M. Ragger (2655)

▶ H. Steingrímsson (2562)

German league

05.02.2012

1. +/-

**[23]**

▷ B. Adhiban (2561)

▶ M. Ragger (2655)

Aeroflot Open

07.02.2012

1. +/-

**[24]**

▷ B. Socko (2636)

▶ I. Bukavshin (2517)

Aeroflot Open

07.02.2012

1. +/-



[25]

▷ Shen Yang (2447)

▶ R. Robson (2596)

Aeroflot Open

09.02.2012

1... =/+ / -/+

**[27]**

▷ A. Jankovic (2568)

▶ C. Sandipan (2628)

Aeroflot Open

12.02.2012

1... -+

**[26]**

▷ Ab. Gupta (2652)

▶ Cs. Balogh (2665)

Aeroflot Open

10.02.2012

1. =

**[28]**

▷ S. Sjugirov (2622)

▶ B. Jobava (2704)

Aeroflot Open

12.02.2012

1. =



[29]

▷ B. Jobava (2704)
 ▶ D. Bocharov (2611)
 Aeroflot Open
 13.02.2012

1. +/-

**[30]**

▷ R. Mamedov (2636)
 ▶ Lu Shanglei (2516)
 Aeroflot Open
 13.02.2012

1. +/-

**[31]**

▷ A. Khalifman (2632)
 ▶ S. Zhigalko (2658)
 Aeroflot Open
 14.02.2012

1. +/-

**[32]**

▷ M. Godena (2548)
 ▶ A. Gershon (2499)
 Israeli league
 24.02.2012

1. +/-



[33]

▷ T. Henrichs (2473)

▶ R. Fontaine (2552)

German league

25.02.2012

1... -+

**[35]**

▷ A. Lauber (2464)

▶ D. Baramidze (2591)

German league

26.02.2012

1... -/+

**[34]**

▷ N. Huschenbeth (2510)

▶ E. Postny (2622)

German league

26.02.2012

1. +-

**[36]**

▷ R. Polzin (2469)

▶ O. Boguslavskyy (2467)

German league

26.02.2012

1. +-



[37]

- ▷ B. Amin (2608)
 ▶ R. Vera Gonzalez Quevedo (2482)
 Cappelle la Grande
 04.03.2012

1. +/-

**[39]**

- ▷ V. Durarbayli (2543)
 ▶ C. Sandipan (2595)
 Cappelle la Grande
 09.03.2012

1. +/-

**[38]**

- ▷ I. Krush (2461)
 ▶ F. Caruana (2767)
 Reykjavik Open
 08.03.2012

1... -/+

**[40]**

- ▷ M. Oratovsky (2521)
 ▶ L. Bruzon (2691)
 Catalanian league
 10.03.2012

1... -/+



[41]

▷ F. Berkes (2706)

▶ S. Bogner (2534)

German league

17.03.2012

1. +/-

**[42]**

▷ B. Socko (2628)

▶ C. Sandipan (2640)

German league

17.03.2012

1... =

**[43]**

▷ L. Gonda (2520)

▶ Z. Efimenko (2703)

German league

18.03.2012

1. +-

**[44]**

▷ A. Naiditsch (2707)

▶ D. Brandenburg (2522)

German league

18.03.2012

1. +-



[45]

▷ Analysis of Cs. Balogh (2664)

▶ A. Sharafiev (2433)

European Championship

20.03.2012

1. =

**[46]**

▷ A. Volokitin (2695)

▶ E. Schiendorfer (2349)

European Championship

21.03.2012

1. +/-

**[47]**

▷ I. Ivanisevic (2645)

▶ D. Baratosi (2407)

European Championship

22.03.2012

1. +-

**[48]**

▷ Vl. Fedoseev (2548)

▶ D. Khismatullin (2656)

European Championship

23.03.2012

1... -+



[49]

▷ V. Papin (2575)
 ▶ B. Jobava (2706)
 European Championship
 23.03.2012

1... -+

**[51]**

▷ E. Najer (2640)
 ▶ V. Durarbayli (2543)
 European Championship
 27.03.2012

1. +-

**[50]**

▷ A. Dreev (2698)
 ▶ A. Brkic (2587)
 European Championship
 27.03.2012

1. +-

**[52]**

▷ T. Banusz (2583)
 ▶ Cs. Balogh (2664)
 European Championship
 28.03.2012

1. =



(53)

- ▷ I. Smirin (2657)
 ▶ K. Kulaots (2585)
 European Championship
 28.03.2012

1. +-

**(55)**

- ▷ Arty Timofeev (2650)
 ▶ D. Jakovenko (2729)
 European Championship
 29.03.2012

1. -/+

**(54)**

- ▷ V. Erdos (2636)
 ▶ Mio Perunovic (2481)
 European Championship
 29.03.2012

1.+-

**(56)**

- ▷ M. Godena (2508)
 ▶ S. Ter Sahakyan (2578)
 European Championship
 30.03.2012

1. +-



(57)

▷ Ding Liren (2660)

► Lu Shanglei (2514)

Xinghua

31.03.2012

1.+ -

**(59)**

▷ Yu Yangyi (2615)

► Ding Liren (2660)

Xinghua

05.04.2012

1... =

**(58)**

▷ B. Grachev (2705)

► K. Alekseenko (2367)

European Championship

31.03.2012

1... =

**(60)**

▷ E. Bacrot (2706)

► M. Burschowsky (2229)

Deizisau

06.04.2012

1... =



[61]

- ▷ C. Hauser (2209)
 ► M. Perunovic (2582)

Deizisau

06.04.2012

1... -/+

**[63]**

- ▷ A. Naiditsch (2702)
 ► O. Kurmann (2458)

Deizisau

09.04.2012

1. +-

**[62]**

- ▷ S. Shankland (2580)
 ► R. Prasca Sosa (2420)

Philadelphia

06.04.2012

1. +-

**[64]**

- ▷ Ki. Georgiev (2671)
 ► V. Bogdanovski (2435)

Skopje

09.04.2012

1. +-



[65]

- ▷ V. Gunina (2511)
 ▶ E. Kovalevskaya (2419)

Russian league w

11.04.2012

1. +/-

**[67]**

- ▷ S. Movsesian (2702)
 ▶ A. Motylev (2683)

Russian league

12.04.2012

1. +-

**[66]**

- ▷ P. Nakhapetiane (2504)
 ▶ K. Landa (2645)

Russian league

11.04.2012

1... -/+

**[68]**

- ▷ V. Potkin (2669)
 ▶ D. Andreikin (2689)

Russian league

12.04.2012

1... -+



[69]

▷ R. Kempinski (2604)

▶ E. Berg (2575)

German league

14.04.2012

1... -+

**[70]**

▷ R. Ruck (2579)

▶ A. Naiditsch (2707)

German league

14.04.2012

1... -+

**[71]**

▷ P. Maletin (2586)

▶ D. Khismatullin (2656)

Russian league

15.04.2012

1... -/+

**[72]**

▷ S. Movsesian (2702)

▶ P. Leko (2720)

Russian league

15.04.2012

1. +/-



[73]

- ▷ A. Volokitin (2695)
 ► R. Antoniewski (2559)

Austrian league

21.04.2012

1. +/-

**[74]**

- ▷ Xiu Deshun (2492)
 ► Wen Yang (2549)

Chinese league

29.04.2012

1... -+



– SOLUTIONS –

(1)

▷ M. Carlsen (2835)

► L. Aronian (2805)

Wijk aan Zee

16.01.2012

38. ♔c1!! ♚xf2+ 39. ♖xf2 ♚xd1
40. ♔b2+ ♜f6 [40... ♔g7 41. ♜xg6#]
41. ♔xf6+ ♖h7 42. ♜e6! ♔d6 43. ♔e5
♔e7 44. f8Q ♔xf8 45. ♜xf8+- with
a technically winning endgame.

(2)

▷ A. Motylev (2677)

► S. Tiviakov (2677)

Wijk aan Zee

17.01.2012

23. ♔f3!! ♔xb2 [23... ♔xf3 24. gxf3±]
24. ♖a4! The most accurate move!
[24. ♖d3 also led to advantage 24...
♚c3 25. ♖b1 ♚xe3! (25... ♔xa1 26. ♔xd5
exd5 27. b7±) 26. ♔xd5 exd5 27. ♖xb2±]
24... ♚c4 [24... ♔xa1 25. ♖xc2+-]



25. ♖xc4! ♔xc4 26. ♚ab1! [26. b7
♔d5!] 26... ♔e5 27. b7 ♔d5 28. ♔xd5
exd5 29. ♚xd5 ♔c7 30. ♚d7 ♔e5 31. bx-
a8Q ♖xa8 32. ♔h6+- White is win-
ning, but the finish was also elegant:

32... ♖e8 33. ♚bd1 ♔f6 34. ♚7d6 ♔e7
35. ♚e1 a5 36. ♚b6 ♖d8 37. ♚xe7! 1-0

(3)

▷ L. Aronian (2805)

► F. Caruana (2736)

Wijk aan Zee

24.01.2012

Despite being a rook up, the win is
not so obvious. 40. ♖g3!! [40. ♖h4
♜e4 41. ♖xg4 ♜d2] 40... ♖xe2
[40... ♜g8 41. ♔d3 ♖d2 42. ♖e5+ f6
43. ♖e4 f5 44. ♖e5+ ♖h6 45. ♖f4+
♖g7 46. ♔xf5! gxf5 47. ♖xf5+-]
41. ♖e5 d3 [41... ♖xc4 42. ♖xf6+ ♖g8
(42... ♖h6 43. ♖h8+ ♖g5 44. h4+ gxh3
45. ♖f6+ ♖h6 46. ♚f4+-) 43. ♚b1! ♖h7
44. ♚b7 ♖c1+ 45. ♖f1+-] 42. ♚xf6
[42. ♖xf6+-] 42... ♖h6 43. ♚xf7
♖e1+ 44. ♖g2 ♖e2+ 45. ♖g3 ♖e1+
46. ♖xg4 ♖g1+ 47. ♖h3 1-0

(4)

▷ V. Ivanchuk (2766)

► A. Giri (2714)

Wijk aan Zee

24.01.2012

50. ♚h7+! ♖c8 51. ♚xb7! ♖xb7
52. f4!! Only this move is winning.
[52. e6? ♖c7 53. ♖e5 ♖d8+-] 52... gxf4
[52... g4 53. e6 ♖c7 54. ♖e5 ♖d8 (54...
a5 55. ♖f6+-) 55. ♖xf5 ♖e7 56. ♖e5 a5
57. f5 a4 58. ♖d4+-] 53. h4! a5 54. e6!
[54. h5? a4] 54... ♖c7 55. h5 a4 56. e7!
♖d7 57. h6 1-0 [57. h6 a3 58. h7 a2
59. e8Q+ ♖xe8 60. h8Q+-]

(5)

▷ L'E. Ami (2596)

► D. Harika (2516)

Wijk aan Zee

24.01.2012

19.♔h1!! Amazingly deep! Creating the ♔h6 threat. [19.♖xc4 ♔xe3+ 20.♔h1 ♖c5 21.♖b3 ♔h6 could be good as well, but if Black manages to consolidate with ♖e7 and ♔e6, then he is fine.] 19... ♔xe3 20.♖xe3 g5 [20... ♖h5 21.♖d3+-] 21.e5! h6 22.e6 [22.♖d3!? ♔f4 23.♖h7+-] 22... ♔xe6 23.♖xe6+-

(6)

▷ F. Caruana (2736)

► A. Giri (2714)

Wijk aan Zee

27.01.2012

17. ♔xa5!! Typical sacrifice in the Slav, after which White collects all the queenside pawns. 17... ♔xa5 [17... ♖xa5 18.♖xa5 ♔xa5 19.♗xc6 ♔a8 20. ♔xb5±] 18.♗xc6! ♔a8 19. ♔xb5 ♔e6 20.a4 f5 21.♖d2! ♔f6 [21... ♔d5 22.♗e5 (22.♗b4 ♔f7 23.♗a6 ♖a7 24.b4±) 22... ♔xe5 23.fxe5 e6 24.b4±] 22.d5 ♔f7 23.♔ac1 ♔f8 24.b4+- Black had no chance to hold the passers.

(7)

▷ S. Ernst (2606)

► P. Harikrishna (2665)

Wijk aan Zee

27.01.2012

Very difficult task to calculate all the s in order to escape from the perpetual

check. 35.♔c3! ♖xa2+ 36.♔c2 ♖a5+ 37.♔c3 ♖a2+ 38. ♔c2! Only this way! 38... ♔e2+ 39.♔d3 ♖a6+ 40.♔c4 ♖a3+ 41.♔c3 ♖a6+ 42.♔d4! Again the only move to progress. 42... ♔d2+ [42... ♖b6+ 43.♔c4! ♖a6+ 44.♔b3 ♖b5+ 45.♔a3 ♖a5+ 46.♔b2 ♖b4+ 47.♔c1+-] 43.♔e5! ♖e2+ [43... ♔e2+ 44.♔e3+-] 44.♔f6 1-o

(8)

▷ S. Mamedyarov (2747)

► A. Zatoniskih (2506)

Gibraltar

27.01.2012

15.♗ce4! ♗xe4 [15...bxc4 16.♗xf6+ ♔xf6 17.♖h7#] 16.♖xe4 ♔xg5 17. ♔d3! f5 18.♖xc6 ♔xf4 19.♖xa8 ♖b6 20.♖f3±

(9)

▷ A. Aitbayev (2386)

► Arty Timofeev (2659)

Moscow Open

28.01.2012

86... ♔c1+!! 87.♔xc1 ♔xd3! 88.cxd3 e5+! [88... ♔xc1 89.e5 ♔c2 90.♔e3 ♔xa2 91.♔xb4=] 89.♔e3 ♔xc1 90.♔h8 ♔e1+ [90... ♔c2! was the right move 91.♔b8 ♔xa2 92.♔xb4 ♔a1! 93.♔a4 a2-+] 91.♔f3 ♔f1+ 92.♔e3 ♔g1 93.♔b8 ♔xg5 94.♔xb4? [94.♔f2! would have hold the draw] 94... ♔g2+

(10)

▷ G. Glidzhain (2381)

► V. Iordachescu (2651)

Moscow Open

28.01.2012

19...♔f5!! [19...♔f6 was more logical, but much weaker. 20.♖h5 ♔h6 21.♖f7=] 20.bxa5 [20.♖xe6 ♔f6! 21.♖h3 ♔h6-+] 20...♖e7! 21.♔ab1 ♔f6 [21...♔a6+] 22.♖c2 [22.♖h5 ♔h6+] 22...e4 23.♔xe4 dxe4 24.♖xe4 ♔xa5+

(11)

▷ Hou Yifan (2605)

► Le Quang Liem (2714)

Gibraltar

31.01.2012

34.♔xh6!! gxh6 35.♖e6+ ♔g7 36.♖d7+! ♔g6 37.♗e6! Actually it is Black, who has to fight for draw. Only one move would have saved him, but he failed to find it. 37...♔c5? [37...♔f7! 38.♗f4+ ♔g7 39.♗h5+ ♔g8! (39...♔g6 40.♖e6+ ♔f6 41.♗xf6 ♔xf6 42.♖xf5+-) 40.♖e8+ ♔f8 (40...♖f8 41.♖xa4±) 41.♖g6+ ♔h8 42.♖xh6+ ♔g8=] 38.♖g7+! ♔h5 39.♗xf8 ♔xf8 40.♖f7+ 1-0

(12)

▷ Ni Hua (2641)

► N. Kabanov (2522)

Moscow Open

31.01.2012

20.♔h6!! gxh6 21.♖xh6 c4 [21...♖d8 22.♔e3 ♔h8 23.♔g3 ♔g8 24.♔xg8+ ♔xg8 (24...♖xg8 25.♖xb6+-) 25.♔d3+-] 22.♔e3 [22.♖g5+ ♔h8 23.♖f6+ ♔g8 24.♔e3+-] 22...f6 23.♔g3+ ♔f7 24.♔g7+ ♔e8 25.♖xh7 ♔d8 26.♔xc4! ♖xc4 27.♔gxd7+ [27.♔dxd7+ ♗xd7 28.♔xd7+ ♔c8 29.♔xb7+-] 27...♔c8 28.♔7d6 ♖c7 29.♖h6 1-0

(13)

▷ A. Lastin (2538)

► Arty Timofeev (2659)

Moscow Open

01.02.2012

17.♗xd6+!! ♖xd6 18.♔b5+ ♔e7 19.♖xd6+! ♔xd6 20.♔ad1+± ♔e6 [20...♔c7 21.fxe5 ♗xe4 22.♔xf7+ ♔b8 23.♔dd7 ♔c8 24.♔de7±; 20...♔e7 21.fxe5±] 21.♔c4+! ♔e7 22.fxe5 ♔ac8 23.exf6+ gxf6 24.♔b3±

(14)

▷ E. Berg (2550)

► M. Vachier Lagrave (2699)

Gibraltar

02.02.2012

17.♗xf8!! ♗xd3 18.♗g6+ ♔h7 19.♔xd3! with more than enough compensation for the queen. Black king is too weak. 19...♔xg6 [Black was nicely mated in another recent game as well. 19...♔d8 20.♗d5! b5 (20...♗xd5 21.exd5 ♔xh4 22.♗xh4+ ♔g8 23.♗g6 ♔d7 24.♔f3+-; 20...♔xg6 21.e5+ ♔f7 22.exf6±) 21.♗ge7! ♔xe7 22.♗xe7 ♔b7 23.♔xf6 gxf6 24.♔xf6 ♖xa2 25.♔bf1 ♔g7 26.♔g6+ ♔h8 27.e5! 1-0 Bobras-Maksimenko, German league 2012.; 19...♖xc3 20.♗xe7+-] 20.e5+ ♔h5 [20...♔f7 21.exf6 ♔xf6 22.♗d5+-] 21.exf6 ♔xf6 [21...♖xc3 22.fxe7 ♔d7 23.♔e1 ♖e5 24.♔xb7+-] 22.♔xf6 gxf6 23.♔b3! ♖a5 24.♔xf6!+- Black can not hold the threats. 24...♔d7 25.♗e4! ♔g4 [25...♖e1+ 26.♔f1+-] 26.h3 ♔g8 27.hxg4+ ♔xg4 28.♔e2 ♖e1+ 29.♔h2 1-0

[15]

▷ David, Alb (2598)

▶ A. R. Salem (2505)

Gibraltar

02.02.2012

30... ♖c4!! 31.bxc4 ♖xc5 with the double threat of ♖xg1 and ♖xc4
 32. ♖g5 [32. ♖g3 ♖g4!-+] 32... ♖f2+!
 0-1 [But not 32... ♖xc4?



33.e6!! ♖xg5 34. ♖xc4=; 32... ♖f2+
 33. ♖d2 ♖d4+ 34. ♖c2 ♖xc4-+]

[16]

▷ B. Savchenko (2609)

▶ A. Goganov (2497)

Moscow Open

03.02.2012

23... ♖e2+! 24. ♖h2 ♖g1+! 25. ♖h1
 ♖g3+! 26. ♖xg1 ♖xe4 27. ♖xc8
 ♖axc8 28. ♖xe4 ♖fe8! 29. ♖xf4!
 ♖xe4 30. ♖xg5 ♖c2+

[17]

▷ L. D. Nisipeanu (2638)

▶ A. Lauber (2464)

German league

04.02.2012

23.d5! ♖xd5 [23... ♖b3 24. ♖d2! ♖xd5
 25. ♖c2! ♖xc4 26. ♖xh7+ ♖xh7

27. ♖xc4 ♖xc4 28. ♖g5±] 24. ♖g3? [24.
 ♖g4! to provoke f5 25. ♖g3+-] 24...f6!
 25. ♖c2 ♖a5? [25... ♖e8! with a very
 sharp fight.] 26.cxd5! ♖xc2 27. ♖xf6!
 g6 28. ♖xc2 ♖xc2 29.dxe6+-

[18]

▷ M. Vachier Lagrave (2715)

▶ A. Giri (2722)

German league

04.02.2012

19.c4!! Very difficult move to play
 19...bxc4 20. ♖xc4 ♖a5 threatens now
 20...c6 [20... ♖b8 has a beautiful refu-
 tation:



21. ♖e4! c6 22. ♖g4+! ♖h8 23. ♖xd5!
 cxd5 24. ♖e5+!! dxe5 25. ♖xe5+-]
 21. ♖xd6! ♖xd6 22. ♖xe8 ♖xe8
 23. ♖xd6 White already has three
 pawns for the piece. 23... ♖e7
 24. ♖g3+ ♖h8 25. ♖d1± [25. ♖c1±
 with a big advantage.]

(119)

▷ F. Vallejo Pons (2716)

► H. Melkumyan (2619)

German league

24.02.2012

20. ♖xh7+! [20.fxe7? ♜xd3] 20...
 ♜xh7 21. ♜h5+ ♜g8



22.fxg7 [22.♖e4!! was the way to win 22... ♜xf4 (22...g6 23. ♜h3 ♖f8? 24.♖g5+-) 23.fxg7 f6 (23...♜xg7 24.♖d4+! ♖xd4 25. ♜xf4+-) 24. ♜h8+ ♜f7 25. ♜h7 ♜g8 26. ♖h4!+-; 22. ♜xc3 ♖xf6 23. ♜h3 g6 24. ♜h7+ ♜f8] 22... ♜xg7 23. ♜xc3 ♜d6! 24. ♜g3+ [24.f5 ♜h8 25. ♜g3+ ♜g6 transposes to the game] 24... ♜g6 25.f5 ♜h8 26. ♜xg6+ fxg6 27. ♜xg6+ ♜f8 with unclear position

(120)

▷ I. Cheparinov (2659)

► P. Drenchev (2493)

Tringov memorial

05.02.2012

23. ♖xg5! [23. ♖xc7 ♜xc7 24. ♜xd4 (24. ♖xa8 ♖xd2) 24... ♜xb7] 23... ♜xg5 24. ♜xd4! cxd4 25.♖e4! ♜e5 [25... ♜e7 26. ♖xa8 ♜xa8 27. ♜xd4±]



26. ♜c1!! This great in-between move causes problems on Black's back rank. 26... ♜ad8 [26...♖e6 27. ♖xa8 ♜xa8 28. ♜c8+!+-] 27. ♜xc7 ♜xc7 28. ♜xc7 d3 29.♖d2+-

(121)

▷ H. Melkumyan (2619)

► C. Lupulescu (2655)

German league

05.02.2012

31.♖e8!! [31.♖xf5? ♜g6!] 31... ♜g6 32. ♜b8! ♖c6 33.♖xg7! ♜xg7 34. ♖xg7 ♜xg7 35. ♜b1! ♖xa4 [35...f4 36. ♜c8 ♖d7 37. ♜c4+-] 36. ♜b7 ♖d7 37. ♜a7 against ♜a1+ 37... ♜e7? [37...♖e5 38. ♜d6±] 38. ♜c7 ♖e5 39. ♜a5! ♖g6 40. ♜d5 ♖f8 41. ♜xf5+-

(122)

▷ M. Ragger (2655)

► H. Steingrimsen (2562)

German league

05.02.2012

18. ♜xd7!! Eliminating the defender! 18... ♜xd7 19. ♜d1! ♜xa4 [19... ♜a7 20.♖f6+! gxf6 21.exf6 ♖xf6 22. ♖e4+-] 20.♖f6+! gxf6 [20... ♖xf6 21.exf6+-] 21.exf6 ♖xf6 22. ♖e4! ♜d8? [22... ♜xd1+ would have given some practi-

cal chances, but of course the position objectively should be lost. 23. ♖xd1+] 23. ♜xd8+ ♙xd8 24. ♖xh7+ ♙f8 25. ♖h8+! ♙e7 26. ♙g5+ ♙d6 27. ♖xd8+ ♙e5 [27... ♖d7 28. ♙f4+ e5 29. ♖f6+ ♖e6 30. ♙xe5+ ♙d7 31. ♙f5+-] 28.f3 ♖d7 29. ♖f6+ 1-0

[23]

▷ B. Adhiban (2561)

► M. Ragger (2655)

Aeroflot Open

07.02.2012

30.b7! ♜xd4 [30... ♖xb7 31. ♙xd8+ ♜xd8 32. ♖xg7±] 31.bxc8Q ♖xh3 32. ♖b7+! ♙f6 33. ♙c7! Important defensive move, which had to be foreseen. 33... ♖xg4+ [33... ♜xg4+ 34. ♙g3 h5 35. ♜c1! The most precise. 35... h4 36. ♖g2! ♖xg2+ 37. ♙xg2 ♙e7 (37... hxg3 38.c6+-) 38.c6 ♙d8 39. ♙h3!+-] 34. ♖g2+-

[24]

▷ B. Socko (2636)

► I. Bukavshin (2517)

Aeroflot Open

07.02.2012

42.dxc5!! At first sight this can only be dangerous for White, but actually it is winning. 42... ♙c7 43.a5! a6+ [43... ♙d7 44.a6 bxa6+ 45. ♙xa6 ♙c6 46.b4 e5 47.fxex f4 48.e6 f3 49.b5+! ♙xc5 50.e7 f2 51.e8Q f1Q 52. ♖e7+ ♙c4 53. ♖xg7+-] 44. ♙b4 ♙c6 45.h3! Black is in zugzwang. [45.h4? ♙c7 46. ♙c3 ♙c6 47. ♙d4 ♙d7 was draw.] 45... ♙d7 46. ♙c3 ♙c6 47. ♙d4 ♙b5 [47... ♙d7 48. ♙e5 ♙e7 49.h4! ♙d7 50.b4 ♙e7 51.b5! This breakthrough

was the point! 51... axb5 52.c6! ♙d8 53.cxb7 ♙c7 54.a6 b4 55. ♙d4+-] 48.h4 ♙xa5 [48... ♙c6 49. ♙e5 ♙d7 50.b4+-; 48... ♙b4 49. ♙e5 ♙xb3 50. ♙xe6 ♙c4 51. ♙f7! ♙d3 52. ♙xg7 ♙xe3 53. ♙xg6 d4 54.h5 d3 55.h6 d2 56.h7 d1Q 57.h8Q+-]



49.c6!! Fantastic move! [49. ♙e5 ♙b4 50. ♙xe6 a5] 49... bxc6 [49... ♙b6 50.cxb7 ♙xb7 51. ♙e5 ♙c6 52. ♙xe6 ♙c5 53. ♙f7+-] 50. ♙c5 1-0 [50. ♙c5 d4 51.exd4 e5 52.fxe5 f4 53.e6 f3 54.e7 f2 55.e8Q f1Q 56. ♖d8#]

[25]

▷ Shen Yang (2447)

► R. Robson (2596)

Aeroflot Open

09.02.2012

17... ♜c6!! [17... ♜xg2 18. ♙xg2 ♖b6 19. ♙xa5 ♜xf2+ 20. ♙g1 (20. ♙h1 ♜xh2+ 21. ♙xh2 ♖f2+ 22. ♙h1 ♖h4+ 23. ♙g1 ♖g3+=) 20... ♜f1+!! 21. ♙xf1 ♙h3+ 22. ♙e2 ♙g4+ 23. ♙f1 ♙h3+-] 18. ♙xa5 [18.dxc6 ♖g5!] 18... ♖g5 19. ♙f1? This loses quickly. [19.g3 ♜h3+ 20. ♙g2! ♜xf2+ 21. ♙h1 ♜xd2 22. ♜xe4! ♜xd1 23. ♜xg5 ♜xa5 24. ♜axd1 ♜xg5= Three pieces and one pawn for two rooks should be

clearly better for Black.] 19...♖h3+
20.♖h1 ♖xf2+ 21.♖g1 ♖h3+
22.♖h1 ♖f2+ 23.♖g1 ♖xd1-+

(26)

▷ Ab. Gupta (2652)

► Cs. Balogh (2665)

Aeroflot Open

10.02.2012

22.♙xe6+? was tempting, but leads to a bad endgame... [22.♙d3+! ♖d5 23.♙xd5 exd5 24.♙xd5+!! cxd5 25.♙xd5+ ♖e8 White holds the draw by perpetual check after the surprising (25...♖c7?? 26.♙e5+ ♙xe5 27.♙c1+!+-) 26.♙h5+! ♙f7 27.♙h8+ (27.♙e1+ ♙e7!? 28.♙xe7+ ♙xe7) 27... ♙f8 28.♙h5+=] 22...♖c7! 23.♙e5+ ♙xe5 24.♙xe5+ [24.♙xf8 ♙xf8 25.♙xe5+ ♙d6 26.♙xg7+ ♙d7] 24...♙d6 25.♙xd6+ ♖xd6 26.♙xf8 ♙xe6=

(27)

▷ A. Jankovic (2568)

► C. Sandipan (2628)

Aeroflot Open

12.02.2012

Black played excellent chess: 23... ♖g5!! [23...♖d2 24.♙d5!±] 24.♙d5 [24.♙g2 ♙f5-+] 24...♖h3+! 25.♖h1 [25.♖g2 ♖xe3+! 26.fxe3 ♙xe2+-] 25...♖hxf2+ 26.♖g1 [26.♙xf2 ♙e4+! 27.♙xe4 ♙xc1+ 28.♖g2 ♙xe4-+] 26...♖h3+! 27.♖h1 ♙e4+! 28.♙xe4 ♙xc1! 29.♙f3 [29.♙xc1 ♙xe4-+] 29... ♖hf2+! 30.♖g2 ♙xf1 31.♙d4 [31.♖xf1 ♖xh2+-] 31...♖d1! 0-1

(28)

▷ S. Sjugirov (2622)

► B. Jobava (2704)

Aeroflot Open

12.02.2012

Probably, Black was already celebrating his victory, when he had to face the truth. 54.♖b3!! ♖c8 [54...♖c6 55.♙xb6 ♖xb6 56.♖c4=] 55.♙c5! ♖a7 [55...♖d6 56.♙xd6+ ♖xd6 57.♖c4 ♖c6 58.♖d4+ ♖b6 59.♖b3=] 56.♙xa7 [56.♖c4 ♖c6 57.♖c1= was also draw.] 56...♙xa7 57.♖c4 ♙b7 58.♖c5 ♙b6 59.♖b3 with a theoretical draw. 59...♙d6 60.♖d4 ♙b8 61.♖b3 ♙b6 62.♖a5 ♖e6 63.♖b3 ♙b8 64.♖c5+ ♖f5 65.♖b3 ♙b6 66.♖d3 ♖e4 67.♖xb4 ♖d4 68.♖a3 ♖c4 69.♖a2 ♙b3+ 70.♖a4 1/2-1/2

(29)

▷ B. Jobava (2704)

► D. Bocharov (2611)

Aeroflot Open

13.02.2012

52.♙d3!! g5 [52...♖h6 53.♙d6+ ♖g5 54.♙g6+ ♖f4 55.♙xg1 ♙xe4 56.♙e6+-; 52...g6 53.f6! ♖h6 54.♙g3 ♙c5 55.♙xg6+ ♖h5 (55...♖h7 56.♙g5 ♙f8 57.♙xe5+-) 56.♙g8+ ♖h4 57.♙d5+] 53.♙g6+! [53.fxg6+? ♖g7 54.♙d7 ♙a7!]=] 53...♖g8 54.♙d8+ ♖g7 55.♙d7+ ♖g8 [55...♖f6 56.♙f7#] 56.f6 1-0

[30]

▷ R. Mamedov (2636)

► Lu Shanglei (2516)

Aeroflot Open

13.02.2012

21. ♖xe6!! [21. ♖xf3 c4 22. ♖a2 ♖xf3! 23. gxf3 ♖ef4!] 21... ♖xe6 22. c4!! This is the point! Suddenly Black king becomes the „haunted” one! [22. ♖xf3 ♖e2!] 22... fxcg2 23. ♖c3! ♖g7 [23... ♖g8 24. ♖g4!±] 24. ♖h6! ♖f6 25. f4!+-

[31]

▷ A. Khalifman (2632)

► S. Zhigalko (2658)

Aeroflot Open

14.02.2012

White can get a big advantage on both sides, it depends on our style, which one we prefer. 22. c4!! is the strongest move! [22. ♖xg6 fxcg6 23. ♖xg6 ♖c4∞; But 22. ♖xb6 ♖xb6 23. ♖xg6! fxcg6 24. ♖xg6 ♖f8 25. ♖xh5 ♖a7± is also clearly better for White.] 22... ♖xc4 23. ♖c1! ♖d7 24. ♖a2 [24. ♖f1+-] 24... ♖ab8 25. ♖b3! a5 26. b5+- Black loses the knight.

[32]

▷ M. Godena (2548)

► A. Gershon (2499)

Israeli league

24.02.2012

24. ♖xh7!! ♖xh7 25. ♖xg7+ ♖xg7 26. ♖xf6+ ♖g8 [26... ♖h7 27. ♖d3+-] 27. ♖xg6+ ♖g7 28. ♖f6+ ♖f8 29. ♖h7+ ♖g8 30. ♖f6+ ♖f8



31. ♖h6! ♖e6 [31... ♖f7 32. ♖h5+-] 32. ♖d3! ♖e7 33. ♖h7+ ♖f7 34. ♖f3+ 1-0

[33]

▷ T. Henrichs (2473)

► R. Fontaine (2552)

German league

25.02.2012

20... f3!! 21. ♖xf3 [21. ♖xf3 ♖xf3! 22. ♖xf3 ♖d4!! (22... ♖xb4 23. ♖xg5+! hxg5 24. axb4 ♖f3 25. ♖f1) 23. exd4 (23. ♖fxd4 exd4 24. ♖b2 ♖e5+-) 23... ♖xf3 24. ♖f1 exd4+-] 21... ♖xf3! 22. ♖xf3 ♖xb4! [22... ♖d4? 23. ♖xd4!] 23. ♖xb7? [23. axb4 ♖xf3 24. ♖f1 ♖h3+ 25. ♖e1 ♖f8!+- White can not hold the pressure. 26. ♖d2? ♖xe2 27. ♖xe2 ♖xf2+! 28. ♖xf2 ♖xh2+-] 23... ♖xc2 24. ♖e4 ♖xa3 25. ♖b3 ♖a4 0-1

[34]

▷ N. Huschenbeth (2510)

► E. Postny (2622)

German league

26.02.2012

Very good example for training the calculations, I hope you managed to find the win. 56. ♖g6? [56. ♖a8

f2 57.♖a1 ♖h5 58.♙g7 ♙e3 59.h8Q
 ♖xh8 60.♙xh8 ♙e2 61.♙g7 f1Q
 62.♖xf1 ♙xf1 63.♙f6 ♙e2 64.♙e5
 ♙d3 65.♙d6 ♙c4 66.♙xc6 ♙xb4=;
 56.♖g8!! was the only winning move.
 56...f2 (56...♖f5+ 57.♙e6 f2 58.♖g4++-
) 57.♖g4+! ♙e3 (57...♙d5 58.♖f4+-)
 58.♙xe5 f1Q 59.♖e4+! ♙d3 60.♖d4+!
 (60.h8Q?? ♖a1+) 60...♙e3 61.h8Q+]
 56...♖e6+! 57.♙g5 [57.♙f7 ♖e5!]=]
 57...♖e5+ 58.♙g6 ♖e6+ 59.♙g5 ♖e5+
 60.♙g6 1/2-1/2

[35]

▷ A. Lauber (2464)
 ► D. Baramidze (2591)
 German league
 26.02.2012

12...♖xe4! 13.♖e5 [13.0-0 ♖xd7+]
 13...♖h4+ 14.g3 ♖xg3 15.hxg3
 ♖xh1+ 16.♙d2 ♖xd1+ 17.♙xd1 f6!
 This was the whole point! 18.♖f3
 ♖g4 19.♖e2 ♖ad8+ [19...♖e4-+]
 20.♖d2 ♖d7 21.♖b1 ♖de7!-+

[36]

▷ R. Polzin (2469)
 ► O. Boguslavskyy (2467)
 German league
 26.02.2012

28.♖e3!! Very deep idea... 28...♖c7
 29.f4! Suddenly the best piece of
 Black got caught in the middle of
 the board! 29...♖xf4 30.♖xf4 ♖xf4
 31.♖xg6+-

[37]

▷ B. Amin (2608)
 ► R. Vera Gonzalez Quevedo (2482)
 Cappelle la Grande
 04.03.2012

Really precise calculation was need-
 ed. 31.♖e5! ♖xe5+ 32.♙d2 ♖d5+
 [32...♖g5+ 33.♙c3 ♖e3+ (33...
 ♖e3+ 34.♙d4! ♖e8 35.♖d5+ ♖xd5+
 36.♙xd5±) 34.♖d3 transposes to the
 game; 32...♖xf1 33.♖xe5+-] 33.♙e3!
 [33.♙c3? ♖c8+!] 33...♖e5+ [33...♖g5+
 34.♖f4 ♖e7+ 35.♙f3+-] 34.♙d4!
 ♖e4+ [34...♖e4+ 35.♙c3 ♖h3+
 36.♖g3+!±] 35.♙c3 ♖e3+ 36.♖d3!
 ♖c5+ 37.♙b4 ♖b5+ 38.♙a4 ♖xd3
 39.cxd3±

[38]

▷ I. Krush (2461)
 ► F. Caruana (2767)
 Reykjavik Open
 08.03.2012

34...♖g4! 35.♖f1! ♖b6? [35...♖xe2!!
 was the elegant win, but Black missed
 it in the timetrouble. 36.♖xf8+ ♖xf8
 37.♖xe2 ♖xe2! 38.♖e3 ♖b1+ 39.♖g1
 ♖xg1+ 40.♙xg1 ♖d3 (40...♖d6+)
 41.♖xe5 ♖d6 42.♖e8+ ♙g7 43.♙f2
 ♙f7 44.♖a8 ♖xe4+] 36.♖aa1! [White
 missed 36.♖a6! ♖xf1+ 37.♖xf1 ♖f2
 38.♖xg6 ♖h3 39.♖h5!] 36...♖xe2
 37.♖xf8+ [37.♖xe2 ♖f2+] 37...♖xf8
 38.♖xe2 ♖f2-+

[39]

▷ V. Durarbayli (2543)

► C. Sandipan (2595)

Cappelle la Grande

09.03.2012

49. ♖xc6!! [49. ♗xg5 ♜xg5 50. ♖xc6 ♜d5 51. ♖a3±] 49... ♗xd2? [49... ♜d5 50. fxe6 ♗xd2 51. ♜f7 ♗xb4 52. ♗f3 ♜e7 53. ♖xa6± (53. ♖b6+ ♖c8 54. ♖b7±)] 50. ♖b6+ ♖a7 51. ♖b7+ ♖a8 52. ♗f3!+ ♜d4 53. ♗h1 1-0

[40]

▷ M. Oratovsky (2521)

► L. Bruzon (2691)

Catalanian league

10.03.2012

21... ♗xh4!! 22. ♜xb7 [22. ♜f1 losses in similar fashion 22... ♗xf2+! 23. ♖xf2 ♖h4+ 24. ♖g1 f4!-+] 22... ♗xf2+! 23. ♖xf2 ♖h4+ 24. ♖g1 ♖g3 25. ♖e4 [25. ♜e4 fxe4 26. ♗xf8 e3-+] 25... fxe4 26. ♖e1 ♖g4! 27. dxe4 [27. ♗xf8 e3!-+] 27... ♜e2+ 28. ♖xe2 ♖xe2 29. ♗xf8 ♖xd2 30. exd5 ♖d4+! 31. ♖h2 ♖xa1-+

[41]

▷ F. Berkes (2706)

► S. Bogner (2534)

German league

17.03.2012

34. ♜g5!! hxg5 [34... ♗e6 35. f5! ♖f6 (35... hxg5 36. fxe6 ♖xe6 37. h6±) 36. ♜xe6! fxe6 37. ♖g6+ ♖xf5 38. e4++-] 35. h6 ♗f5 [35... ♜f6 36. fxg5+-] 36. e4! This was the point! 36... ♜xf4? [36... gxf4 37. exf5 ♜f6 38. h7 ♜xh7 39. ♖xh7

♖xa3 (39... ♖xf5 40. ♗h5±) 40. ♗h5±] 37. exf5 ♖f8? [37... ♖f6 38. ♖g8+-] 38. f6 1-0

[42]

▷ B. Socko (2628)

► C. Sandipan (2640)

German league

17.03.2012

30... ♖d1? [30... ♗xa5? 31. ♗xd5 cxd5 32. ♗a3+-; 30... ♖h5!! would have saved the game 31. ♜xc6 (31. ♗a3 c5) 31... ♖xh2+ 32. ♖f1 ♖h1+ 33. ♖g2 ♖h2+=] 31. ♜xc6!+- ♖e2 [31... ♖xc1 32. ♜xe7+-] 32. ♗a3+ ♗d6 33. ♗b3! ♖dd2 34. ♗c1! ♖c2 35. ♗xc2 ♖xc2 36. ♜d4 1-0

[43]

▷ L. Gonda (2520)

► Z. Efimenko (2703)

German league

18.03.2012

Only the silent solution wins the game. 25. ♜g4+! ♖g8 26. h3!! White controls the e5 square and ♖f1 decides the game. 26... ♖g5 27. ♜f4 [27. ♖f1+-] 27... ♗c8 28. ♜e6 ♗xe6 29. dxe6+-

[44]

▷ A. Naiditsch (2707)

► D. Brandenburg (2522)

German league

18.03.2012

20. ♜e3 led to unclear position. [20. ♜f6!! gxf6 21. exf6 ♗xf6 22. ♖h5! ♗xg5 and here comes the subtle point



23. ♔f5!! exf5 24. ♔xg5 ♖e6! the best practical chance. 25. ♜xe6 fxe6 26. b3! ♜c3 27. bxc4 ♜xb1 28. ♖h6+- Black can not solve all the problems he is facing with.; 20. ♜xh7 ♜xh7 21. ♜f6+ gxf6 22. ♖h5+ ♜g8=]

[45]

▷ Analysis of Cs. Balogh (2664)
▶ A. Sharafiev (2433)
European Championship
20.03.2012

Seems like White cannot avoid ♜c8 mate, but... 37. ♜xh5+!! gxh5 [37... ♜g8 38. ♖xf4! ♔xf4 39. ♜h8+ ♜f7 40. ♜xd8 ♔xe3 41. ♜d5=; 37... ♜g7? 38. ♜xe5!! ♜c8+ 39. ♜d4 dxe5+ 40. ♖xe5+ ♜f7 41. ♜xh2+-] 38. ♖f5! ♜b2 39. ♖f6+! ♜h7 40. ♖f7+=

[46]

▷ A. Volokitin (2695)
▶ E. Schiendorfer (2349)
European Championship
21.03.2012

30. ♖g4!! ♜f7 [30... ♖xg4 31. ♜xd6#; 30... ♜f5 31. ♜de3+-] 31. ♜xd6+! ♖xd6 32. ♜e3! ♜f6 33. ♜xd6 ♜xg4 34. ♜xg4±

[47]

▷ I. Ivanisevic (2645)
▶ D. Baratosi (2407)
European Championship
22.03.2012

35. ♜xd8! ♜g5+ 36. ♜g3 ♜xd8 37. h4!
The keymove! 37... ♜gf7 38. ♜e6+ ♜g8 39. ♜xd8 ♜xd8 40. ♔f4 1-0

[48]

▷ Vl. Fedoseev (2548)
▶ D. Khismatullin (2656)
European Championship
23.03.2012

54... ♖g1+! 55. ♜a8 ♖g2! 56. ♜a7 ♖f2+! 57. ♜a8 ♖f3! 58. ♜a7 ♖e3+! 59. ♜a8 ♖e4! 60. ♜a7 ♖d4+! 61. ♜a8 ♖d5! [61... ♖xa4 62. b8Q=] 62. ♜a7 ♖c5+ 63. ♜a8 ♖c6 64. ♜a7 ♖c7 65. ♜a8 ♜e5! Transposing to winning pawnendgame! 66. b8Q ♖xb8+ 67. ♜xb8 ♜d5 68. ♜c7 ♜c5! 0-1

[49]

▷ V. Papin (2575)
▶ B. Jobava (2706)
European Championship
23.03.2012

38... ♜b3+!! [38... ♜e8+ 39. ♜c2 ♜d2+! 40. ♜xb3 ♔e6+ 41. ♜c4 [41. ♜a3 ♜a2#] 41... ♜d3+ 42. ♜c2 ♔xc4 43. ♔xa5 ♜f3 44. ♔e1 h5-+]

(50)

▷ A. Dreev (2698)

► A. Brkic (2587)

European Championship

27.03.2012

30. ♖xb7!! ♜xb7 31. ♖b1+ ♜a8 [31... ♜c8 32.c6!! ♜c5 33. ♖b4+-] 32.d6!! [32. ♖b5? ♜b7!] 32...c6 [32...cxd6 33. ♖d5+-] 33.dxe7 ♜e8 34. ♖xe6 fxe6 35. ♖b4! ♜xe7 36. ♖g4 ♜b7 37. ♖xg6 1-0

(51)

▷ E. Najer (2640)

► V. Durarbayli (2543)

European Championship

27.03.2012

19. ♜xf7!! ♜xf7 20.g5! ♜xe4 [The nicest part of the combination is coming after 20... ♖g3 21.gxf6! ♖xf2+ 22. ♖xf2 gxf6 (22... ♜xf6 23. ♖xa5+-) 23. ♜h5+ ♜g7



24.e5! fxe5 25. ♖xa5!! ♜xa5 26.f6+! ♜xf6 (26... ♜f8 27. ♜h6+ ♜e8 28. ♜g7+-) 27. ♖h4+ ♜e6 28. ♜h6+ ♜d7 29. ♜g7+ ♜c6 30. ♜f6+ ♜d7 (30... ♜c5 31. ♖f2+ d4 32. ♜xe5+-) 31. ♜e7+ ♜c6 32. ♜e6+ ♜c7 33. ♜xe5+ ♜b6 34. ♖f2+ ♜a6 35. ♖f1+ ♜c4

36. ♜xh8+-; 20... ♜d7 21. ♜h5+ ♜g8 22.f6+-] 21. ♜xe4 [21. ♖xe4! was probably stronger 21...dxe4 22. ♜h5+ ♜g8 23.f6 with winning attack 23... ♜c7 24. ♜b5!+-] 21...dxe4 22. ♖d2 would lead to unclear position after 22... ♖d5! [22. ♜h5+! should have been played again 22... ♜g8 23.f6 ♜c7 24.fxg7 ♜xg7 25. ♖d1+-]

(52)

▷ T. Banusz (2583)

► Cs. Balogh (2664)

European Championship

28.03.2012

31. ♖h3? [31. ♖h6! ♜d7 32.e5!! (But not 32. ♜f4? ♜xf6 33. ♜xg6 ♜g7!!+-) 32... ♖xe5 33. ♖gh1 ♜xf6 (33... ♖h5 34. ♖xh5 gxh5 and the f6 pawn is protected was the point behind 31. ♖h6! 35. ♜g3!=) 34. ♖h8+ ♜g7 35. ♖xd8 ♖xe2 36. ♖c1=] 31... ♜d7 32.f4 [32.e5 ♖xe5 33. ♖gh1 ♖h5 34. ♖xh5 gxh5+; 32. ♖gh1 ♜xf6+] 32... ♜xf6+

(53)

▷ I. Smirin (2657)

► K. Kulaots (2585)

European Championship

28.03.2012

36. ♖db1!! 1-0 [36. ♖db1 ♖f5 (36... ♖xf3 37. ♖b7+! ♖xb7 38. ♖xb7+-; 36... ♖xb1 37. ♖b7+-) 37. ♖b7+ ♖d7 38. ♖b8!+-]

(54)

▷ V. Erdos (2636)

► Mio. Perunovic (2481)

European Championship

29.03.2012

22. ♖xg7! ♖xg7 23. ♜d6! ♜b8
[23... ♜e6 24. ♜xf7!+- (24. ♜xb7±)]
24. ♜xf7! ♜g5 [24... ♜e6 25. ♜xg7+
♜xg7 26. ♜xb7 ♜xb7 (26... ♜f6
27. ♜d6+-) 27. ♜d7+ ♜h8 28. e5+-]
25. ♜xg7+! ♜xg7 26. ♜xb7 ♜f7
[26... ♜xb7 27. ♜d7+ ♜f7 28. ♜f2 ♜f8
29. e5+-] 27. ♜d7 ♜e6 28. ♜d6 ♜xd6
29. ♜xd6 ♜xd6 30. e5+-

(55)

▷ Arty Timofeev (2650)
► D. Jakovenko (2729)
European Championship
29.03.2012

18... ♖xc3! 19. bxc3 ♖xd5 20. ♜xd5
♜d4!! 21. R5xd4 [21. ♜e4 f5!+-;
21. ♜c4 ♜e6+-] 21... cxd4 22. cxd4
♜d5±

(56)

▷ M. Godena (2508)
► S. Ter Sahakyan (2578)
European Championship
30.03.2012

31. ♜cxe5! fxe5 32. ♖c4+ [32. ♜xe5
is winning as well 32... ♜e6 (32...
♜e8 33. ♜xg6 hxg6 34. ♜xe7 ♜xe7
35. ♜xe7 ♜d5 36. ♖c4 ♜f8 37. ♜xa7+-
) 33. ♜xg6 hxg6 (33... ♜xe2 34. ♜xe7+
♜xe7 35. ♜xe7+-) 34. ♖c4 ♖d5
35. ♖xd5 ♜xd5 36. ♜xe6+ ♜xe6
37. ♜xd5+-] 32... ♜d5 33. ♜xe5 ♜e6
34. ♜xg6! ♜xe2 35. ♜xe7+ ♜xe7
[35... ♜f8 36. ♜xe2 ♜xe7 37. ♖d6! ♜d7
38. ♖e6+-] 36. ♜xe7 ♜hf6 37. ♜xa7+-

(57)

▷ Ding Liren (2660)
► Lu Shanglei (2514)
Xinghua
31.03.2012

14. ♖xg6! fxg6 15. ♜xg6! hxg6 [15...
♜c7 16. ♜e5+ ♖g7 17. ♜f3+-; 15... e5
16. ♜g3+-] 16. ♜xg6+ ♜h8 17. ♖g5!
[17. ♜f3! was an alternative solu-
tion 17... ♜g8 (17... ♖xd4+ 18. ♜h1+-)
18. ♜h5 ♖xd4+ (18... ♜e8 19. ♖g7+!
♜xg7 20. ♜g3+ ♖g5! 21. ♜xg5+ ♜f6
22. ♜h7!+-) 19. ♜h1 ♜e8 20. ♜h4!
♜g6 21. cxd4+-] 17... ♖xg5 18. fxg5 ♜e7
19. ♜h6+ ♜g8 [19... ♜h7 20. ♜f8+]
20. g6! ♜d7 21. ♜f3! ♜f8 22. ♜af1
♜xg6 23. ♜g3 ♜g7 24. ♜xg6 1-0

(58)

▷ B. Grachev (2705)
► K. Alekseenko (2367)
European Championship
31.03.2012

45... ♜xd4!! 46. ♜xf5 [46. ♖xd4??
♜c7+ 47. ♜g1 ♜g3+-+] 46... ♜d2+!
47. ♜g1 [47. ♜xd2 ♜xf5=] 47... ♜xc2
48. ♜xf7+ ♜g6 49. ♜f6+ ♜h5 50. a3
♜e2 51. ♖d6 ♜e3=

(59)

▷ Yu Yangyi (2615)
► Ding Liren (2660)
Xinghua
05.04.2012

17... ♖xc5!! Really nice escaping idea.
[17... ♖xa6? 18. ♜xa6+-] 18. ♖xc5
♜xc5! 19. ♜xc5 ♜xc5 20. ♖xc8
o-o! [20... ♜e7 21. ♖xe6 fxe6 22. ♜c1

♞c8 23. ♘d4 very close to draw, but White can still press a bit.] 21. ♞c1 [21. ♙xe6 fxe6=] 21... ♞xc8 22. ♘d4 ♘b3 threats. 22... ♞c7! 23. ♘b5 ♞c8 24. ♘a7 [24. ♘d6 ♞c7=] 24... ♞c7 25. ♘b5 ♞c8 26. ♘a7 ♞c7 27. ♘b5 1/2-1/2

[60]

- ▷ E. Bacrot (2706)
▶ M. Burschowsky (2229)

Deizisau

06.04.2012

26... ♙h3?! [26... ♘h3+!! was the right move 27.gxh3 (27. ♖h1? ♙g4!! 28. ♞xf7 ♙xe2 29. ♘b4 (29. ♞f6 ♙xd3-+) 29... ♖xf7! 30. ♞xe4 ♘f2+ 31. ♖g1 ♘xe4-+) 27... ♙xh3 28. ♞f2! Only move! (28. ♘e1 ♞e3+ 29. ♖h1 ♙xf1-+) 28... ♞xf2 29. ♖xf2 ♞h4+! (29... ♞g2+? 30. ♖e1+-) 30. ♖e3 (30. ♖g1 ♞g5+) 30... ♞g5+ 31. ♖f2 ♞h4+=] 27. ♙d1! ♞xf1+ 28. ♖xf1 ♙f5 29. ♙e2 ♙h3! 30. ♙d1 ♙f5 31. ♘e1! ♞f4+ 32. ♞f2 ♞xc4+ 33. ♙e2 ♞xd5 34. ♞h4± White was slightly better.

[61]

- ▷ C. Hauser (2209)
▶ M. Perunovic (2582)

Deizisau

06.04.2012

22... ♞g5!! To prevent the h4 defense on ♞h6. [22... ♞h6 23.h4!] 23.h3 [23. ♙f3 ♞h6 24.h4 ♙xf3 25.exf3 gxh4 26.g4 ♞g6 27. ♘f4 ♙xf4 28. ♞xf4 ♞g5+] 23... ♙xh3 24. ♙xh3 ♞xh3 25. ♞xg5+ ♞g6 26. ♘f4 ♙xf4 27. ♞xf4 ♞h6 28. ♞f3 ♞h2+ 0-1 [28...

♞h2+ 29. ♖f1 ♞h1+ 30. ♞xh1 ♞xh1+ 31. ♖g2 ♞xe1-+]

[62]

- ▷ S. Shankland (2580)
▶ R. Prasca Sosa (2420)

Philadelphia

06.04.2012

53. ♞xb7 ♞xb7 54. ♞xc6! ♙xb3 [54... e6



55. ♞xb7!! ♙xb7 56. ♙xe6+ ♖h8 57.d5+-] 55. ♖xb3! 1-0 [55. ♖xb3! ♞d7 (55... ♞b8 56. ♞e6+ ♖h8 57.d5+-) 56. ♞xd7 ♞xd7 57.c6+-]

[63]

- ▷ A. Naiditsch (2702)
▶ O. Kurmann (2458)

Deizisau

09.04.2012

22. ♙d3! ♞a4 23. ♞xa4! ♙xa4 24. ♞xb8+ ♙f8 25. ♘g5 [25. ♞xf8+ ♖g7 26. ♘g5+-] 25... ♖g7 26. ♙xf8+ ♖f6 27. ♘h7# 1-0

[64]

- ▷ Ki. Georgiev (2671)
▶ V. Bogdanovski (2435)

Skopje

09.04.2012

1. ♖xf7+! ♜xf7 2. ♜b7+ ♜e8?! [2... ♜d7 would have been the critical of the combination. 3. ♜xd7+ ♜f6 4. ♜xd6+ ♜g7 5. ♜d7+ ♜f6 6. h4!! (6. ♜e6+! ♜g7 7. ♜xe5+ ♜h7 8. ♜g1 is the human win.) 6... ♜xf1+ 7. ♜h2+- Despite being a rook up, Black is completely lost. 7... ♜f8 8. b7 ♜b1 9. d6!+-] 3. ♜xc8+ ♜e7 [3... ♜f7 4. ♜xc4+-] 4. ♜e6+ ♜d8 5. ♜xf6+ ♜c8 6. ♜e6+ ♜b7 7. ♜d7+ 1-o[7. ♜d7+ ♜a6 (7... ♜xb6 8. ♜c6+ ♜a7 9. ♜xc4+-) 8. ♜a7+ ♜b5 9. b7 ♜xf1+ 10. ♜g1+-]

[65]

- ▷ V. Gunina (2511)
▶ E. Kovalevskaya (2419)

Russian league (w), 11.04.2012

Many pieces are hanging. White has only one way to keep the pawn up! 23. ♜b3!! ♜xc1 24. ♜xc1! ♜c5 [24... ♜xd5 25. ♜xd5±] 25. ♜f1! The best move! [25. ♜d4±] 25... ♜xa5 26. b4! ♜a3 [26... ♜xb4 27. ♜d4+-] 27. ♜d4 ♜xc1 28. ♜xg4 ♜e6 29. ♜c4 ♜a1 30. ♜xb7+-

[66]

- ▷ P. Nakhapetiane (2504)
▶ K. Landa (2645)

Russian league

11.04.2012

34...g5!! All the moves are coming with tempo, thanks to the unfortunate situation of the d6 knight. 35. ♜g3 [35. ♜xg5 ♜xd6 36. ♜xf5 ♜xd4+] 35...f4! 36. ♜a3 ♜a8! 37. ♜b4 ♜a2! 38. ♜g1 f3!+-

[67]

- ▷ S. Movsesian (2702)
▶ A. Motylev (2683)

Russian league

12.04.2012

Black has some counterplay for the piece down, but White destroys all the hopes with a nice combo! 25. ♜xe6!! ♜xe6 26. e4! ♜xd2 27. exf5+ ♜e7 [27... ♜d7 28. ♜xg4+- (28. fxg6+-)] 28. fxg6 ♜e8 29. ♜xg4 ♜d8 30. ♜f7 ♜e1+ 31. ♜f1+-

[68]

- ▷ V. Potkin (2669)
▶ D. Andreikin (2689)

Russian league

12.04.2012

27...exf4!! 28. ♜xe8 [28. ♜f1 ♜e3+ 29. ♜f2 ♜d4! is the most precise, but there were other good moves as well. (29... ♜e6!? 30. ♜xa4 ♜xf2+! 31. ♜xf2 ♜e4+)] 30. ♜af1 fxg3 31. hxg3 ♜e4! 32. ♜xe4 ♜xe4+-; 28. ♜xa4 ♜e3+ 29. ♜h1 ♜f3+ 30. ♜g1 ♜e2+-] 28... ♜e3+ 29. ♜h1 [29. ♜g2 f3+-] 29... ♜f3+ 30. ♜g1 fxg3! and the rook joins to the attack through g4. 31. ♜xf7+ [31. ♜xg3 ♜g4+-; 31. hxg3 ♜g4+-; 31. ♜f1 gxh2+ 32. ♜xh2 ♜g4+-; 31. ♜xa4 ♜f2+ 32. ♜h1 ♜xh2#] 31... ♜g7! [but not 31... ♜xf7? 32. ♜f1

gxh2+ 33. ♖xh2 when the pieces are pinned on the f-file.] 32. ♖f1 gxh2+ 33. ♖xh2 ♜g4+ 34. ♖g1 ♚g3+ 0-1

(69)

▷ R. Kempinski (2604)

► E. Berg (2575)

German league

14.04.2012

41... ♖g3+!! Leads to forced mate.
42. ♖xg3 ♚xe1+ [42... ♚g4+!? was faster with a few moves 43. ♖h2 ♖e5+!
44. ♖h1 ♚h3+ 45. ♖g1 ♖d4+ 46. ♖f2 ♚g3+ 47. ♖h1 ♖xf2-+] 43. ♖h3 ♚f1+
44. ♖g2 [44. ♖g3 ♖e5+-+] 44... ♚f3+
45. ♖h2 [45. ♖g3 ♚h1#] 45... ♖e5+
46. ♖g1 ♚d1+ 47. ♖f2 ♖d4+ 0-1 [47... ♖d4+ 48. ♖g3 ♚g4+ 49. ♖h2 ♚xh4#]

(70)

▷ R. Ruck (2579)

► A. Naiditsch (2707)

German league

14.04.2012

43... ♖b2!! By pinning himself, Black creates the ♚a1 threat. [43... ♚a1 44. ♚c1!] 44. ♖c3 [44. ♖g2 ♖e1 45. ♜xd6 ♚a1! 46. ♚f2 ♖d4-+; 44. ♜xd6 ♖d4+ 45. ♖f1 ♚a3-+] 44... ♚xd5!! Another great tactic! [44... ♚a1 45. ♖e3 ♖xe3 46. ♖xe3 ♚e1+ 47. ♖f3 ♚f1+ 48. ♚f2 ♚h1+ 49. ♚g2 ♚d1+ 50. ♚e2 ♚xd5+-+] 45. ♖e3 [45. ♚xb2 ♚h1!-+ was the point!] 45... ♖xe3 46. ♖xe3 ♖g7-+

71)

▷ P. Maletin (2586)

► D. Khismatullin (2656)

Russian league

15.04.2012

38...e5!! 39. ♜xe5 [39. ♖h4 ♚a6-+] 39... ♖xd4 40. ♖xd4 ♖c1+ 41. ♖d1 ♚e4! The idea behind 38...e5!! 42. ♚d2 ♖xd1+ 43. ♚xd1 ♚xe5+

(72)

▷ S. Movsesian (2702)

► P. Leko (2720)

Russian league

15.04.2012

23. ♖xd7!! [23.gxf5? gives nothing 23... ♖xf5 24. ♜fh4 (24. ♜gh4 ♖g4) 24... ♖c2 25. ♖f4 ♖xd1 26. ♖xd1 fxe5 27. ♖xe5 ♖e8=] 23... ♖xd7 24.gxf5 fxg5 25.e6+ ♖c8 [25... ♖d6 26. ♖d1+ ♖c5 27.e7+-; 25... ♖e8? 26.e7! ♖xe7 27. ♖e1+-] 26.e7 ♖b7 White finds the best way to increase the advantage



27. ♖e1! ♖e8 28.exd8N+!! [28.exd8Q would be a mistake 28... ♖xe1+ 29. ♜xe1 ♖xd8=] 28... ♖exd8 [28... ♖axd8 29. ♖xe8 ♖xe8 30. ♜xg5+-] 29. ♖e7+-

[73]

▷ A. Volokitin (2695)
 ► R. Antoniewski (2559)
 Austrian league
 21.04.2012

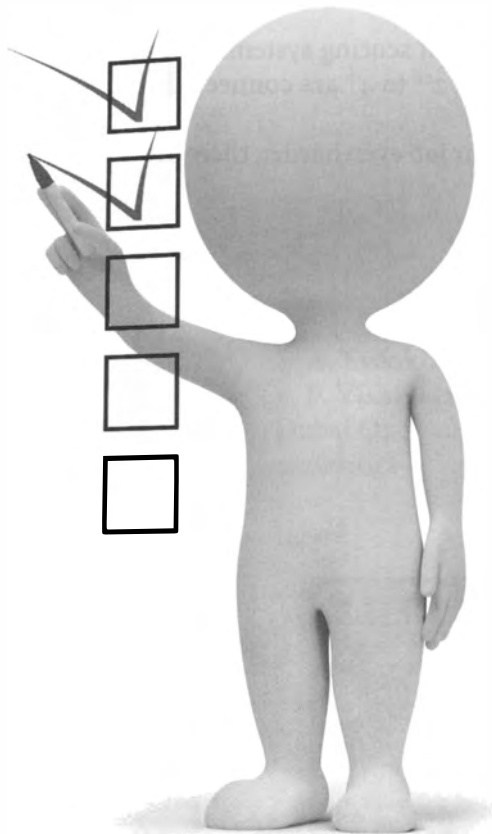
After a forced , White gets a much better endgame: **24. ♖xh7!!** [24. ♔d3!? leads to the game with transposition. 24... ♔xf6 25. ♖xh7!!] **24... ♔xf6** Only move! [24... ♖xh7 25. ♖h4+ ♖g8 26. ♖h1+-] **25. ♔d3!!** ♖xh7 **26. ♖h1+** ♖g8 [26... ♖g7 27. ♔h6+ ♖g8 28. ♔xg6+-] **27. ♔xg6 fxg6 28. ♖xg6+** ♔g7 **29. ♖h7+** ♖f7 **30. ♔h6!** [30. ♖f1+ gives also a small edge, but the position will rather be drawish 30... ♖e8 31. ♖g6+ ♖d8 32. ♔g5+ ♖c7 33. ♖xg7+ ♖c6 34. ♖xf8 ♖g1+! 35. ♖c2 ♖xg2+ 36. ♖d3 ♖d5+ 37. ♖e2 ♖xf8 38. ♖xf8 ♖xg5 39. ♖c8+±] **30... ♖d4!** [30... ♖g8 31. ♖f1+ ♖e7 32. ♔xg7+-] **31. ♖f1+** ♖e8 [31... ♖e7 32. ♔g5+! ♖d6 33. ♖d1+-] **32. ♖g6+!** ♖d7 **33. ♖d1** ♔xh6+ **34. ♖xh6** ♖xd1+ **35. ♖xd1±**
 With a healthy pawn up, but of course the win still requires good technique.

[74]

▷ Xiu Deshun (2492)
 ► Wen Yang (2549)
 Chinese league
 29.04.2012

24... ♖b8!! Only this way! [The tempting 24... ♖d2? would spoil the win 25. ♖b1!! ♖xd5 26. c6! ♖d1+ 27. ♖c2 ♖d2+ 28. ♖b3 and White survives.] **25. ♖d8+** ♖xd8 **26. ♖b1** ♖d2 **27. g3** [27. c6 ♖b2+ 28. ♖c1 ♔h6+ 29. ♖d1 c2+-+] **27... ♔d4** 0-1 [27... ♔d4 28. c6 ♖b2+ 29. ♖c1 ♔e3+ 30. ♖d1 c2+-+]]

– TESTS –



There are five tests, each with ten examples. The level of exercises is increasing from test to test...

Timing is also important factor in a chess game, so I suggest to give yourself:

- » 1 hour for the 1st Test,
- » 1,5 hour for tests 2-4
- » and 2 hours for the 5th.

Don't look up the solutions until you have solved all 10 diagrams of the actual test. In the end of each test, you can find your score and the evaluation of your current tactical skill.

There are three different scoring systems: 1st and 5th tests have their own and the middle ones from 2nd to 4th are connected.

In order to make your job even harder, there are no "smiley" helpers anymore.

– TEST #1 –

(1)

▷ D. Solak (2602)
▶ Vl. Georgiev (2531)
Skopje
14.04.2012

1. +/-



(2)

▷ A. Evdokimov (2555)
▶ P. Vishnu (2406)
Dubai Open
21.04.2012

1... -/+



[3]

▷ R. Kashtanov (2361)

▶ T. Gelashvili (2619)

Philadelphia

07.04.2012

1... -+

**[4]**

▷ A. Jankovic (2553)

▶ V. Nedilko (2392)

European Championship

29.03.2012

1. +-

**[5]**

▷ D. Marholev (2383)

▶ A. Delchev (2622)

Bulgarian Championship

25.04.2012

1. +-

**[6]**

▷ R. Robson (2596)

▶ V. Belous (2522)

Moscow Open

30.01.2012

1. +-



(7)

- ▷ M. Roiz (2651)
 ▶ G. Rechlis (2467)

Israeli league

03.02.2012

1... -+

**(8)**

- ▷ A. Aleksandrov (2612)
 ▶ B. Gundavaa (2493)

Aeroflot Open

09.02.2012

1. +-

**(9)**

- ▷ V. Laznicka (2704)
 ▶ K. Kulaots (2581)

Gibraltar

27.01.2012

1. +-

**(10)**

- ▷ I. Hera (2558)
 ▶ M. Sebenik (2529)

Austrian League

20.01.2012

1... =



– SOLUTIONS –

(1)

- ▷ D. Solak (2602)
 ▶ Vl. Georgiev (2531)
 Skopje
 14.04.2012

19. ♖xc7! [19. ♜d5 ♖g4! 20.f3 ♕e6=]
 19... ♜xc7 20. ♜d5+ ♜c8 [20... ♜b7
 21. ♜xe7 ♜xe7 22. ♜xd7+ ♜c8±]
 21. ♜xb6+ ♜c7 22. ♜d5+ ♜c8
 23. ♜b6+ ♜c7 24. ♜xd7+- You got 3
 points for solving this.

(2)

- ▷ A. Evdokimov (2555)
 ▶ P. Vishnu (2406)
 Dubai Open
 21.04.2012

25... ♜xe4! This was a warm-up puzzle for 2 points. 26. ♖d1 [26. ♜xe4?? ♜xe2+-+] 26... ♜xc3 27. ♜xc3 ♖f6+ 28. ♕xg4? This allows another small combination, but the position was quite hopeless anyway. 28... ♖g6! 29.h3 [29. ♕f3 ♜h3+ 30. ♜h1 ♕xe3-+] 29... ♕xg4 30.hxg4 ♜e2+! 31. ♖xe2 ♕xe3+ 32. ♜xe3 ♖xb1+-+

(3)

- ▷ R. Kashtanov (2361)
 ▶ T. Gelashvili (2619)
 Philadelphia
 07.04.2012

25... ♕e1!! 26. ♜g2 [26. ♜xe1 ♕xf5+ is check! 27. ♜xf5 ♜xe1-+] 26... ♕d1+!! Excellent “teamwork” by the Black pieces! 27. ♜xd1 ♜c3+ 28. ♜b2

♜xd1-+ If you calculated until this move, you deserve 6 points.

(4)

- ▷ A. Jankovic (2553)
 ▶ V. Nedilko (2392)
 European Championship
 29.03.2012

28. ♖e7!! Brilliant idea! 28... ♜xe7 [28... ♜xd5 29. ♜xa7+-] 29.dxe7 ♖b8 1-o [29... ♖b8 30. ♜fe1 ♜e6 (30... ♕e5 31. ♜xa7!+-) 31. ♕c6+- You receive 8 points!]

(5)

- ▷ D. Marholev (2383)
 ▶ A. Delchev (2622)
 Bulgarian Championship
 25.04.2012

37. ♕c8!! This great silent move creates insolvable problems on the back-rank. 37... a1Q+ 38. ♜g2 You gained 4 points. 38... g6 [38... h6 39. ♖e8+ ♜h7 40. ♕f5+ g6 41. ♖xf7+-+] 39. ♖c7 [39. ♜xf6+- was also winning of course.] 39... ♖a8 40. ♖xf7 ♜xc8 41. ♖xf6+ ♜g8 42.e4 1-o

(6)

- ▷ R. Robson (2596)
 ▶ V. Belous (2522)
 Moscow Open
 30.01.2012

27. ♕xh6!! ♕xh6 [27... ♜xh6 28. ♖h3+ ♜h5 29. ♖xe6+-] 28. ♜d5! ♜xd5 29. ♖f7+ ♕g7 30. ♖xe6 Black

cannot hold the threats on the h-file.
30...♖e3 31.♜d3! This was the hardest puzzle of the 1st Test, you deserve 9 points for solving it. [31.♜f3+-] **31...♜f5** [31...♜xf1 32.♜h3+ ♜h6 33.♜f7+ ♜h8 34.♜xh6#] **32.♜xf5** 1-o

(7)

▷ **M. Roiz (2651)**
 ► **G. Rechlis (2467)**
 Israelian league
 03.02.2012

19...♜d8! 20.♜b5 ♜xa5! 0-1[20...♜xa5 21.♜xa5 ♜xa5 22.♜xa5 ♜c6+ 23.♜g1 ♜a8-+ This was for 6 points.]

(8)

▷ **A. Aleksandrov (2612)**
 ► **B. Gundavaa (2493)**
 Aeroflot Open
 09.02.2012

26.♜e5! 1-o[26.♜e5! ♜d8 (26...♜xe5 27.♜c8+) 27.♜xd4! ♜xd4 28.♜c8++- This gives you 4 extra points.]

(9)

▷ **V. Laznicka (2704)**
 ► **K. Kulaots (2581)**
 Gibraltar
 27.01.2012

26.♜xc8+! ♜xc8 27.♜xc8+ ♜f8 28.♜xf8+! 1-o[28.♜xf8+ ♜xf8 (28...♜g7 29.♜c8+-) 29.♜xe5+ ♜g8 30.d6+- A nice puzzle for 4 points.]

(10)

▷ **I. Hera (2558)**
 ► **M. Sebenik (2529)**
 Austrian League
 20.01.2012

59...g3! 60.♜xg3 [60.fxg3 ♜b5+!! This great stalemate idea was the point of the sacrifice! White cannot avoid perpetual check. If you found this idea, you receive 5 points. 61.♜c6 ♜b6+ 62.♜d5 ♜b5+ 63.♜e4 ♜b4+ 64.♜f3 ♜b3+ 65.♜g2 ♜b2+ 66.♜h3 ♜h2+! 67.♜xh2=; 60.f3 g2 61.♜c6 ♜c1+! 62.♜d6 ♜b1 63.♜xg2 ♜xb7 64.f5 ♜b6+! 65.♜e5 ♜b5+=] **60...♜xb7 61.♜d5 ♜b5+ 62.♜e6 ♜b6+=**

RATINGS**50-41**

Congratulations, excellent solving!

40-32

Well done! You are ready for the next level!

31-24

Not bad, but try to calculate more accurately.

23-10

Before going to the next level, do some additional warm-up.

9-0

More from the easy section is needed!

– TEST #2 –

(1)

▷ A. Schenk (2499)

► G. Schroll (2388)

Austrian league

20.04.2012

1. +/-



(2)

▷ S. Cao (2526)

► Pham Duc Thong (2232)

Vietnamien Championship

19.03.2012

1. +/-



[3]

▷ E. Rozentalis (2586)

▶ B. Kanstler (2422)

Israeli league

03.02.2012

1. +-

**[5]**

▷ P. Negi (2641)

▶ Le Quang Liem (2714)

Aeroflot Open

10.02.2012

1. =

**[4]**

▷ T. Radjabov (2773)

▶ D. Navara (2712)

Wijk aan Zee

16.01.2012

1. +-

**[6]**

▷ Hou Yifan (2639)

▶ H. Stefansson (2531)

Reykjavik Open

11.03.2012

1. +-



(7)

- ▷ G. Kaspret (2292)
 ▶ A. Diermair (2429)

Austrian league

04.03.2012

1. +-

**(9)**

- ▷ P. Jaracz (2542)
 ▶ K. Kuzmicz (2451)

Polisch Championship

26.02.2012

1... -+

**(8)**

- ▷ D. Swiercz (2565)
 ▶ D. Lomsadze (2338)

European Championship

29.03.2012

1. +-

**(10)**

- ▷ S. Mamedyarov (2747)
 ▶ N. Huschenbeth (2518)

Gibraltar

28.01.2012

1. +-



– SOLUTIONS –

(1)

- ▷ A. Schenk (2499)
 - ▶ G. Schroll (2388)
- Austrian league
20.04.2012

13. ♖xh7+! Only this way! [13. ♜xd5?! ♜xd5 14. ♖xh7+ ♜h8 15. ♜xd5 ♖xf3 16. gxf3 g6!] 13... ♜h8?! [13... ♜xh7 14. ♜xd5 ♜e6 15. ♜xe7+ ♜xe7 16. ♖d6 ♜f6 17. ♜xc5 ♖xf3 18. gxf3± with a healthy pawn up. Here you receive 4 points.] 14. ♖f5+-

(2)

- ▷ S. Cao (2526)
 - ▶ Pham Duc Thong (2232)
- Vietnamien Championship
19.03.2012

25. ♜b5!! 3 points for solving this.
25... ♜d5 [25... ♜xd4 26. ♜xc7+ ♜b7 27. ♜xa6 ♜d7 28. ♖c4+-] 26. ♜xe6+- bxc5 27. ♜xd5! [27. ♜xc5+-] 27... ♜xd5 28. ♜c7+ 1-0

(3)

- ▷ E. Rozentalis (2586)
 - ▶ B. Kanstler (2422)
- Israeli league
03.02.2012

29. ♜f6+!! ♜h8 [29... ♜f8 30. ♜h5+-; 29... gxf6 30. ♜h5+-] 30. ♜f4!! There is nothing against ♜xh6! [30. ♜h5? ♜e3!] 30... ♖xc3 31. ♜xh6+ 1-0 If you have seen all these moves, you gain 6 points.

(4)

- ▷ T. Radjabov (2773)
 - ▶ D. Navara (2712)
- Wijk aan Zee
16.01.2012

31. ♜d1! ♜e8 32. ♖b5! 1-0 was the only way to keep the piece up. 2 points!

(5)

- ▷ P. Negi (2641)
 - ▶ Le Quang Liem (2714)
- Aeroflot Open
10.02.2012

20. ♜fg5! [20. cxd3? ♜c3+ 21. ♜xc3 dxc3+-] 20... h6 [20... ♜c3+ leads to less spectacular perpetual check. 21. ♜a1 ♜xe4 22. ♜xh7+ ♜f8 23. ♜xe4 ♜xc2 24. ♜h8+ ♜e7 25. ♜h4+=] 21. ♜f6+!! gxf6 [21... ♜f8?? 22. ♜gh7+! ♜e7 23. ♜d5+ ♜e8 24. ♜e7#] 22. ♜xh6 fxe5 23. ♜xg5+ ♜f8 24. ♜h6+ ♜e8 25. ♜h8+ ♜e7 26. ♜f6+ ♜e8 If you found this draw, you deserve 6 points! 27. ♜h8+ 1/2-1/2

(6)

- ▷ Hou Yifan (2639)
 - ▶ H. Stefansson (2531)
- Reykjavik Open
11.03.2012

40. ♜xe6! 1-0 [40. ♜xe6 fxe6 (40... ♜b1+ 41. ♜e1+-) 41. ♜d7+! ♜xd7 42. ♜h8+ ♜f7 43. ♜xb8+- for 5 points!]

(7)

▷ G. Kaspret (2292)
 ▶ A. Diermair (2429)
 Austrian league
 04.03.2012

39.d6!! Opening the a2-g8 diagonal for the bishop. **39...♖xd6 40.♙c3!!** The keymove! Black either loses material or gets mated. **40...♖xc3** [40...♖xd2 41.♙xd2 ♙xd2 42.♙d5+ ♖e6 43.♗e8+ ♗f8 44.♙xe6+ ♖g7 45.♗g6#] **41.♖xd6 ♙xd6** [41...♖c1+ 42.♖g2 ♖xh1 43.♙d5+ ♖e6 44.♙xe6+ ♖f8 45.♖d8+ ♖e7 46.♗e8#] **42.♙d5+ ♖e6 43.♗e8+** 1-0 This was the hardest one from the 2nd Test. Only if you calculated the whole line, you receive 9 points.

(8)

▷ D. Swiercz (2565)
 ▶ D. Lomsadze (2338)
 European Championship
 29.03.2012

35.♖xh7!! [35.♖c7? ♖5a7!] **35...♖xa2** [35...♖xh7 36.♖d7+ ♖g8 37.h7+ ♖h8 38.♙f6+ ♙g7 39.♖xg7!+- 4 points!] **36.♖dd7** 1-0

(9)

▷ P. Jaracz (2542)
 ▶ K. Kuzmicz (2451)
 Polish Championship
 26.02.2012

35...♖b4+! **36.cxb4** [36.♖xb4 ♗xb2#] **36...♗c4+** 0-1 [36...♗c4+ 37.♖b1 ♗xd3+ 38.♖a2 cxb4!-+ Another 4 points here.]

(10)

▷ S. Mamedyarov (2747)
 ▶ N. Huschenbeth (2518)
 Gibraltar
 28.01.2012

28.♙xg6! fxg6 29.♙a5!! Necessary „zwischenzug“! [29.♗xg6+? ♗g7+] **29...♗xa5 30.♗xg6+ ♖f8 31.♖g3!** 1-0 If you calculated all this, 7 points are your reward!

RATINGS**50-40**

Wow! You are ready for the hardest Test!

39-32

Great result, worth a try on the next level.

31-21

Very good, but not enough for the 5th Test. Practice from the “Hard” section!

20-10

Solve more examples from the “Medium” section.

9-0

Don't give up, you belong to the “Medium” level. Try to concentrate and practice more!

- TEST #3 -

[1]

► E. Janev (2484)
► D. Solak (2602)
Cappelle la Grande
04.03.2012

1. +/-



[2]

► **Mat. Bartel (2658)**
► **F. Caruana (2736)**
Aeroflot Open
13.02.2012

1. +/-



[3]

▷ P. Prohaszka (2553)
 ► Cs. Balogh (2664)
 European Championship
 23.03.2012

1. +/-

**[5]**

▷ Cs. Balogh (2665)
 ► P. Ponkratov (2611)
 Aeroflot Open
 15.02.2012

1. +/-

**[4]**

▷ V. Papin (2575)
 ► T. Coleman (2356)
 Reykjavik Open
 08.03.2012

1... -+

**[6]**

▷ Li Shilong (2549)
 ► Lu Shanglei (2514)
 Xinghua
 27.03.2012

1.+-



(7)

▷ G. Kacheishvili (2612)

▶ M. M. Pavlovic (2478)

Reykjavik Open

11.03.2012

1. +/-

**(9)**

▷ A. Moskalenko (2451)

▶ D. Andreikin (2689)

Russian league

11.04.2012

1... -+

**(8)**

▷ E. Inarkiev (2689)

▶ A. Kovchan (2565)

Moscow Open

03.02.2012

1. +-

**(10)**

▷ V. Hamitevici (2436)

▶ I. Nyzhnyk (2585)

Nabokov memorial

22.04.2012

1. +/-



– SOLUTIONS –

(1)

▷ E. Janev (2484)
▶ D. Solak (2602)
Cappelle la Grande
04.03.2012

22. ♖xe5!! Seems like blundering a piece, but... 22... ♖xe5 23. ♖xe5 f6



24. ♖xg6!! fxg6 [24... hxg6 25. ♖1e4!! Black gets mated soon. 25... g5 (25... ♖f7 26. ♖e8+ ♔f8 27. ♖xf8+! ♖xf8 28. ♖h4#) 26. ♖h4+! gxh4 27. ♖h5# We started immediately with the most difficult one of the 3rd Test. If you found all the mates in this line, you deserve 8 points!] 25. ♖h5± White ended up with an extra pawn. [25. ♖e4!±]

(2)

▷ Mat. Bartel (2658)
▶ F. Caruana (2736)
Aeroflot Open
13.02.2012

20. ♖f3! Doublethreat with ♔xg6 and ♔xc6! If you realized both, 4 points!
20... ♖xa4 [20... ♖g8 21. ♔xc6! bxc6 22. ♖xc6 ♖f5 23. ♖e4! ♖b8 24. ♖xb6

♖xb6 25. ♖xa8+-] 21. ♔xg6+- ♖h8
22. ♔g5! 1-o[22. ♔g5 ♖g8 23. ♖e7!+-]

(3)

▷ P. Prohaszka (2553)
▶ Cs. Balogh (2664)
European Championship
23.03.2012

14. ♖xd5! cxd5 [14... ♔c5 15. ♖c7! ♔xe2 (15... ♔xd4+ 16. e3±) 16. ♔e3! ♔xf1 17. ♖xf1 ♖a6 18. ♖xa8 ♖xa8 19. ♔xc6! bxc6 20. ♖xa6±] 15. ♔xd5+ ♔f7 16. ♔xb7 ♖b6 17. ♔xa8 ♖xa8 It was enough to calculate until here for 3 points. 18. ♖xa7 [18. ♔e3± was the easiest with close to decisive advantage.] 18... ♔c5 19. ♖xa8 ♔xd4+ 20. e3 ♔b6 21. ♔d2±

(4)

▷ V. Papin (2575)
▶ T. Coleman (2356)
Reykjavik Open
08.03.2012

61... ♖d3+! 62. ♖xd3 c5+! o-o-1[62... c5+ 63. ♖xc5 g1Q-+ I can only give 2 points for solving this.; 62... g1Q?? 63. a5+ ♖a6 64. ♖c5+ ♖xc5+ 65. ♖xc5+-]

(5)

▷ Cs. Balogh (2665)
▶ P. Ponkratov (2611)
Aeroflot Open
15.02.2012

15. ♕f4!! The powerful bishop on e5 had to be eliminated. 15... ♕xf4 [15... ♖xd5 16. ♕xe5 ♖xe5 17. ♖xd5+ ♖xd5 18.exd5±] 16. ♖xf4 ♖xf4 17. ♖d8+ ♖f8 18. ♕c4+ ♖g7 19. ♖xc7!± ♖f1 is coming. It was time to stop here. Our intuition should tell us, White must be winning. This was for 7 points. 19... ♖h6?! [19... ♖f6! 20. ♖f1 ♕f5 21.exf5 ♖c8 22. ♖f4 ♖xf5 23.b3±] 20. ♖f1 ♖g7 21.c3! ♖f5 22. ♖c5! b6 [22... ♖e7 23. ♖xf5!+-] 23. ♖d5 ♖e7 [23... ♖e3 24. ♖d2!+-] 24. ♖xa8+-

(6)

▷ Li Shilong (2549)
▶ Lu Shanglei (2514)
Xinghua
27.03.2012

30. ♖xg7! d2 [30... ♖xg7 31. ♕e5 d2 32. ♕xf6+ ♖xf6 33. ♖e6+ ♖g7 34. ♖e7++-] 31. ♖h7+! ♖g8 32. ♕e6+! ♖f8 [32... ♖xe6 33. ♖xe6+ ♖xh7 34. ♖f7+ ♖h8 35. ♕e5#] 33. ♖h8+! 1-0 [33. ♖h8+ ♖xh8 34. ♖f5+ ♖e7 35. ♖f7# 6 points!]

(7)

▷ G. Kacheishvili (2612)
▶ M. M. Pavlovic (2478)
Reykjavik Open
11.03.2012

23. ♕xf7+!! [23. ♖ab1 seems like it traps the queen, but after 23... ♕xd6!! Black survives.] 23... ♖g7 [23... ♖xf7 24. ♖ab1!± thanks to the ♖f3+, Black's trick to take on d6 is not working anymore. 6 points are your reward!]

24. ♕e6 1-0 White is winning, but resignation was a bit premature.

(8)

▷ E. Inarkiev (2689)
▶ A. Kovchan (2565)
Moscow Open
03.02.2012

20.exd6+!! Temporarily sacrificing the queen. you gained 3 points. [20. ♖xd1± also gave an advantage, but the fight would have continued.] 20... ♖xe2 [20... ♖d8 21.d7+- (21. ♖e8+!? ♖xe8 22.d7+ ♖e7 23.dxc8Q+-)] 21.d7+ ♖e7 22.dxc8Q+-

(9)

▷ A. Moskalenko (2451)
▶ D. Andreikin (2689)
Russian league
11.04.2012

32... ♖g6!! Black either traps the queen or gives mate after this silent move. 33. ♖h5 [33. ♖f4 ♖xh3+! 34. ♖xh3 ♖g1+ 35. ♖e2 ♖e1#] 33... ♖e5 0-1 If you have seen both lines, 6 points!

(10)

▷ V. Hamitevici (2436)
▶ I. Nyzhnyk (2585)
Nabokov memorial
22.04.2012

36. ♖xe7!! ♖xe7 [36... ♖d8 was more resistant 37. ♖c6 ♖xd5! 38. ♖xd5 ♖xc6 39. ♖b7± But the perfect position of the pieces guarantees a big advantage] 37. ♖e4! ♖xd5 38. ♖xd6!

♔d1+ [38... ♔xd6 39. ♕c5+-] 39. ♕h2
 If you have seen this and had the
 feeling, that White must be winning,
 5points. 39... ♕f8 [39... ♔d7 40. ♖e4+-
] 40. ♖e4+- and the f8 bishop falls.

RATINGS

50-40

Wow! You are ready for the hardest
 Test!

39-32

Great result, worth a try on the next
 level.

31-21

Very good, but not enough for the 5th
 Test. Practice from the “Hard” sec-
 tion!

20-10

Solve more examples from the “Me-
 dium” section.

9-0

Don't give up, you belong to the “Me-
 dium” level. Try to concentrate and
 practice more!

– TEST #4–

(1)

▷ Cs. Balogh (2662)

► A. Bokros (2452)

Hungarian league

19.02.2012

1. +/-



(2)

▷ B. Socko (2636)

► M. Bartel (2658)

Polish Championship

23.02.2012

1... -+



[3]

▷ D. Baramidze (2607)

▶ A. Volokitin (2695)

Austrian league

20.04.2012

1. +/-

**[5]**

▷ K. Kulaots (2585)

▶ M. Roiz (2652)

European Championship

22.03.2012

1. +/-

**[4]**

▷ V. Erdos (2634)

▶ S. Mamedyarov (2747)

Gibraltar

29.01.2012

1... -+

**[6]**

▷ A. Naiditsch (2702)

▶ S. Mladenov (2419)

Deizisau

07.04.2012

1. +-



(7)

▷ R. Robson (2596)
 ► Al. Reshetnikov (2514)
 Moscow Open
 01.02.2012

1. +-

**(9)**

▷ B. Lalic (2468)
 ► E. Vorobiov (2580)
 Cappelle la Grande
 05.03.2012

1. +-

**(8)**

▷ V. Bologan (2687)
 ► M. Mchedlishvili (2626)
 European Championship
 29.03.2012

1. +-

**(10)**

▷ A. Dgebuadze (2548)
 ► K. Solomon (2449)
 Cappelle la Grande
 05.03.2012

1. +/-



– SOLUTIONS –

(1)

▷ Cs. Balogh (2662)
▶ A. Bokros (2452)
Hungarian league
19.02.2012

22. ♖xe7+! ♜xe7 23. ♖xd6 ♖xd6
24. ♜xd6 ♖xe4 [24... ♙xe4? 25. ♜d8+
♙f8 26. ♙xc5+-] 25. ♜xc6± White re-
mains a pawn up because of the threat
on the backrank. Only 2 points.

(2)

▷ B. Socko (2636)
▶ M. Bartel (2658)
Polish Championship
23.02.2012

30...h5!! with the crucial threat of h4
[30... ♖xd5? 31. ♖xc4!] 31. ♜a8 [On
31. ♜xc4 Black can already take on
d5 31... ♖xd5! 32. ♜e4 the only way to
prevent ♖g2 mate, but now 32...h4!-+
If you have seen this line, 5 points.
Other variations were not relevant;
31. ♖xh5? ♖xf2+-+] 31...h4 32. ♜xf8+
♖xf8 33. ♖f3 [33. ♖h5 hxg3! 34. ♖xg6
♖xf2+ 35. ♖h1 ♖xh2#] 33...hxg3
34. fxg3 ♖xf3 35. ♖xf3 ♜xg3+-+

(3)

▷ D. Baramidze (2607)
▶ A. Volokitin (2695)
Austrian league
20.04.2012

If Black had a pawn on h7, the best
move would be obvious. Now it is
much harder to find... 19. ♙h7+!!

♙xh7 20. ♖h5+ ♙g8 21. ♖g5 ♖xg5
22. ♖xg5 It was enough to stop here,
with the intuition, White must be bet-
ter. 4 points! 22... ♖bd7 23. ♖e7 [23.
h4!+- was probably the most precise
way to win. I show one line to dem-
onstrate the idea. 23...b6 24. h5 ♙b7?
25. h6 g6 26. ♜xd7! ♖xd7 27. ♜d1!
♜fd8 28. ♜xd7 ♜xd7 29. ♖f6+-] 23...
a5 24. ♜fe1 [24. ♜d6±] 24... ♜a6 25. f4
e5 26. f5 e4 27. ♜d5 ♜c6 28. ♜e3± with
a winning advantage.

(4)

▷ V. Erdos (2634)
▶ S. Mamedyarov (2747)
Gibraltar
29.01.2012

38...c4! Important to close the 4th
rank. [38... ♖xf8 39. ♖xa4 ♖g5+
40. ♖h2=] 39. ♖xa4 ♖g5+ 40. ♖h1
♖h4+ 41. ♖g1 ♖g4+ 42. ♖h2 [42.
♖h1 ♙e5!! was the point! 43. f4 ♖h3+
44. ♖g1 ♙d4+ 45. ♜f2 ♖g3+ 46. ♖h1
♖h4+ 47. ♖g2 ♖xf2+-+ 5 points if
you calculated this.] 42... ♙e5+ 43. f4
♙xf4+ 44. ♜xf4+ ♖xf4+ 45. ♖g2
♖d2+ 46. ♖h3 ♖c3+ 47. ♖g2 ♖xf8+-

(5)

▷ K. Kulaots (2585)
▶ M. Roiz (2652)
European Championship
22.03.2012

18. ♖e7+! ♙xe7 [18... ♖h8 19. ♜xd6
cxb5 20. fxg7+ ♖xg7 21. ♖f5±±]
19. fxe7 ♜e8 20. ♙c4+ d5



21. ♖xd5!! This is the whole idea, which had to be foreseen. 21...cxd5 22. ♗xd5+ ♕e6 [22...♖h8 23. ♖f8+-] 23. ♗xe6+ ♖h8 24. ♖f7± Black is totally paralysed. This was one of the hardest puzzle of the 4th Test. If you stopped here, you deserve 7 points! 24...h5 25. ♖f2! ♖h7 26. ♖e3 ♖g6 27. ♖e4+ ♖ac8? 28. ♖f5! 1-0

(6)

▷ A. Naiditsch (2702)
 ▶ S. Mladenov (2419)
 Deizisau
 07.04.2012

24. ♗e6! ♖h8 [24...fxe6 25. ♗f6+! ♖xf6 26. ♖xf6 gxf6 27. ♖g6+ ♗g7 28. h5! ♖xd5 29. ♖g1 ♖d7 30. h6+- This line was for 5 points. The continuation of the game was obviously not critical.] 25. ♗g5 [25. ♖xf7!+- would have won on the spot.] 25...e4 26. ♗xf7+ ♖xf7 27. ♖xf7 ♗d6+ 28. ♖g2 exd3 29. ♖xb7 dxc2 30. ♖c1±

(7)

▷ R. Robson (2596)
 ▶ Al. Reshetnikov (2514)
 Moscow Open
 01.02.2012

16. ♗xe5! ♖b6 [16...dxe5 17. ♖e2! ♖b6 18. ♖xh5+ ♖f8 19. b3+-] 17. ♗a4! ♖a6 18. ♗xd6! From now on White has different wins as well. Unfortunately, only 4 points. 18...♖d8 [18...♖xa4 19. ♗xb8+-] 19. ♗c5! [19. ♖b4+-] 19...♖b5 20. ♗xe6! ♗xd6 21. ♗c7+ ♖f7 22. ♖xd6 1-0 [22. ♖xd6 ♗xd6 23. ♗xb5 cxb5 24. ♖xd6+-]

(8)

▷ V. Bologan (2687)
 ▶ M. Mchedlishvili (2626)
 European Championship
 29.03.2012

28. ♗xd5! exd5 29. ♗b6+!! axb6 30. axb6 ♗d8 [30...♖b8 31. e6+-; 30...♗d6 31. ♖a8+ ♗b8 32. f5! e6 and ♗f4 are coming.] 31. ♖a8+ ♗c8 32. ♖b5!+- It was possible to stop here, since our intuitions should work. Despite being two piece down, White is completely winning. 6 points. 32...♗d6 33. ♖xd5 ♖f7 34. ♖c5! ♗f8



35. f5! Really spectacular position with the pawnstorm in the center. 35... ♖d7 36. e6 [36. exd6!? ♗xd6 37. ♖xc8+ ♖xc8 38. ♖xd6+ ♖d7 39. ♗g5+ ♖xg5 40. ♖f6+-] 36... ♖c6+ 37. ♖xc6

bxc6 diagram 38.f6! ♖h7 39.f7 ♖g6
40. ♙a3 ♖xe6 41. ♙xd6 1-0

(9)

▷ B. Lalic (2468)

▶ E. Vorobiov (2580)

Cappelle la Grande

05.03.2012

24. ♖f7!! Excellent idea, for 5 points.
[24. ♜f7+ leads to unclear position
24... ♖xf7 25. ♖xf7 ♙c6! 26. ♜e6
♖g8 27. ♖xg8+ ♙xg8 28. ♖ab1 ♙e5∞]
24... ♖xf7 [24... ♙g7 25. ♜ce6!+-]
25. ♜xf7+ ♙g8 26. ♜xd8 ♙f3 [26...
♙xa1 27. ♖xa1+-] 27. ♜de6 ♙xd1
28. ♖xd1 ♖xa2 29. ♖d3 1-0

(10)

▷ A. Dgebuadze (2548)

▶ K. Solomon (2449)

Cappelle la Grande

05.03.2012

26. ♙xh6! ♖xc2 [26...gxh6 27. ♖xh6+
♙g8 28. ♖e3!+-] 27. ♖c1!! Only this
great in-between move gives an ad-
vantage! If you managed to find it,
you gain 7 points. I considered this
to be the most difficult puzzle from
the 4th Test, just as the 5th diagram.
[27. ♙g5+?! ♙g8 28. ♙xe7 e3!! 29. ♙h4
(29. ♖xe3 ♖d1+ 30. ♙h2 ♖xf2-+) 29...
exf2+ 30. ♙xf2 ♖d2=] 27... ♖a4 [27...
♖xb2 28. ♙f4+ (28. ♖xc6±) 28... ♙g8
29. ♖xc6±] 28. ♙g5+ ♙g8 29. ♙xe7
♖d5 30. ♖g5+-

RATINGS

50-40

Wow! You are ready for the hardest
Test!

39-32

Great result, worth a try on the next
level.

31-21

Very good, but not enough for the 5th
Test. Practice from the “Hard” sec-
tion!

20-10

Solve more examples from the “Me-
dium” section.

9-0

Don't give up, you belong to the “Me-
dium” level. Try to concentrate and
practice more!

– TEST #5 –

(1)

▷ F. Handke (2518)
► B. Bok (2488)
German league
05.02.2012

1. +-



(2)

▷ V. Malakhov (2705)
► I. Salgado Lopez (2621)
European Championship
24.03.2012

1. +-



[3]

▷ D. Solak (2602)
 ▶ M. Bartel (2665)
 European Championship
 31.03.2012

1... -+

**[4]**

▷ S. Zhigalko (2658)
 ▶ S. Sjugirov (2622)
 Aeroflot Open
 13.02.2012

1. +-

**[5]**

▷ A. Frois (2347)
 ▶ T. Sanikidze (2549)
 Cappelle la Grande
 06.03.2012

1... -/+

**[6]**

▷ Yu Yangyi (2615)
 ▶ Li Shilong (2549)
 Xinghua
 03.04.2012

1. +-



(7)

▷ V. Potkin (2669)
 ▶ Ant. Pavlidis (2431)
 European Championship
 21.03.2012

1. =

**(8)**

▷ Z. Kozul (2601)
 ▶ A. Saric (2528)
 Croatian Championship
 20.01.2012

1. +-

**(9)**

▷ Y. Zhrebukh (2594)
 ▶ D. Alsina Leal (2535)
 Aeroflot Open
 09.02.2012

1. +-

**(10)**

▷ R. Wojtaszek (2704)
 ▶ A. Fedorov (2609)
 Czech league
 22.04.2012

1. +-



– SOLUTIONS –

(1)

▷ F. Handke (2518)

► B. Bok (2488)

German league

05.02.2012

29. ♖xf6+!! ♔xf6 [29... ♕xf6
30. ♖h5+-] 30. ♔xf6 ♕xf6 31. ♖h5
♚g8 32. ♖f7+! ♕g7



33. ♖f3!! This deep and silent move
was the point of the combination.
Black cannot prevent the ♖h4 and
♖g5 threats! If you have calculated
until here and had the feeling, that
the attack is decisive, 7 points. 33...
♖c7 [33... ♕h8 34. ♖h4+-] 34. ♖g5+!
hxc5 [34... ♕h8 35. ♖g6+- (35. ♖e6+-)]
35. ♔xg5! 1-0

(2)

▷ V. Malakhov (2705)

► I. Salgado Lopez (2621)

European Championship

24.03.2012

25. ♕c6!! 1-0 [25. ♕c6 ♖xc6 (25... ♖f7
26. ♕xe8 ♔xe8 27. ♔e1+-) 26. ♔xd6!
♖xd6 27. ♖g7# This was too easy,
only 2 points.]

(3)

▷ D. Solak (2602)

► M. Bartel (2665)

European Championship

31.03.2012

22... ♔xg3!! [22... ♔xd2? 23. ♖a8+
♕d7 24. ♖xg8; 22... ♖xd2? 23. ♔ad1+-]
23. ♖c4 [23. fxc3 ♔xd2+ 24. ♕xh3
♖e5!! was the whole idea! Bravo and
6 points are your reward if you have
seen this. (but not 24... ♖f3?? 25. ♖a8+
♕d7 26. ♖a5); 23. ♔ad1 ♔g2+ 24. ♕h1
♔xd2+-] 23... ♔g2+ 24. ♕h1 ♔gg8
25. ♕h2 ♕e6 26. ♖a8+ ♕d7 0-1

(4)

▷ S. Zhigalko (2658)

► S. Sjugirov (2622)

Aeroflot Open

13.02.2012

24. ♔ec1!! ♔xb5 25. ♔xc4 ♔c5 [25...
♖xc4 26. ♖xc4 ♔xc4 27. ♔a8+ ♕f8
28. ♕h6+- 4 points for this.] 26. dxc5
d5 [26... ♕xa1



27. cxd6!! ♖xc4 28. ♖xc4 ♔xc4
29. d7+-] 27. ♔cc1 1-0

[5]

- ▷ A. Frois (2347)
 ► T. Sanikidze (2549)
 Cappelle la Grande
 06.03.2012

27...e4!! 0-1, but resignation was a bit premature. [27...e4 28.d4 (28. ♖xg7 exd3! 29. ♜xd3 ♜e4+-+; 28.dxe4 ♜xd1 29. ♜xd1 ♖xa1 30. ♜xa1 ♜xe4+-+) 28...♜cd8! wins a pawn. 3 points if you did not make mistake in the calculations!]

[6]

- ▷ Yu Yangyi (2615)
 ► Li Shilong (2549)
 Xinghua
 03.04.2012

Precise calculation is needed! **31. ♜xe5!! f4 32. ♜xc5!! dxc5 33. ♜xd7 ♜xd7** [33...♜h4 34. ♜aa7! ♜f6 35. ♜xh7+ ♜xh7 36. ♜g6+ ♜g8 37. ♜xh4+-] **34. ♜xd7 fxg3 35. ♜xf8 gxf2+ 36. ♜xf2 ♜xf8+ 37. ♜e3+-** White ended up in a winning endgame. An amazing hard puzzle for 7 points.

[7]

- ▷ V. Potkin (2669)
 ► Ant. Pavlidis (2431)
 European Championship
 21.03.2012

36. ♜h3!! ♜xc7 37. ♜xg6+ Surprisingly, Black cannot escape from the perpetual check. **37...♜f8 38. ♜f6+ ♜f7 39. ♜h8+ ♜g8** [39...♜e7 40. ♜e5+ ♜d8 41. ♜b8+ ♜e7

42. ♜e5+=] **40. ♜f6+ ♜f7 41. ♜h8+ ♜g8 42. ♜f6+ 6 points. 42... ♜f7 1/2-1/2**

[8]

- ▷ Z. Kozul (2601)
 ► A. Saric (2528)
 Croatian Championship
 20.01.2012

20.a3!! Black cannot handle the threats on the back rank. **20... ♜c5 21. ♜e4! ♜bxd8** [21...♜xe5 22. ♜xb8 ♜xb8 23. ♜d8+ ♜xd8 24. ♜xd8#] **22. ♜xd8! ♜xd8** [22...♜c6 23. ♜f6+! gxf6 24. ♜g4+ ♜h8 25. ♜xf8#; 22...♜xe5 23. ♜xf8+ ♜xf8 24. ♜d8#] **23. ♜xc5+- 3 points.**

[9]

- ▷ Y. Zharebukh (2594)
 ► D. Alsina Leal (2535)
 Aeroflot Open
 09.02.2012

26. ♜g6!! Too many storm clouds around the king! 4 points! **26... ♜e4** [26...♜e7 27. ♜xd7+! ♜xd7 28. ♜c8+ ♜e7 29. ♜b7+ ♜f6 30. ♜xf7+ ♜g5 31. ♜h7!+-; 26...♜g5 27. ♜xf7+ ♜xf7 28. ♜xd7++-] **27. ♜xe4 ♜xe4 28. ♜xe4 dxe4 29. ♜c6!+-**

[10]

- ▷ R. Wojtaszek (2704)
 ► A. Fedorov (2609)
 Czech league
 22.04.2012

23.g4!! An excellent idea to undermine Black's central pawns. After the

e4 falls, the position becomes hopeless, but one more exact move had to be foreseen! 23...fxg4 24. ♖g3!! To prevent the g3 threat. Black cannot avoid losing huge material now. This was the hardest puzzle of the hardest Test. Strong intuition was needed for the rest of the game. 8 points! 24... ♖ae8 [24... ♗h5 25. ♕xe4+- traps the queen.; 24... ♗h5 25. ♗xe4 ♗xe4 26. ♕xe4 gxh3 27. ♕f3+- ♗xh7 next move.] 25. ♕xf6 ♗xf6 26. ♗xe4 ♗e7 27. ♗xg4 [27. ♗g5+ was even easier, but the text move is also winning. 27... ♗f8 28. ♗f5+-] 27... ♕xg4 28. hxg4 ♗h4+ 29. ♖h3 ♗xg4 30. ♗g5+ ♕xg5 31. ♗xh7+ 1-0

RATINGS

50-42

Bravo, tactics are in your veins!

41-35

You are an extremely dangerous tactical player!

34-26

You have great tactical skills, but there is still place for improvement!

25-15

Not bad, but solve more examples from the "Hard" section!

14-6

Practice, practice, practice! :-)

5-0

Medium section is probably the right one for You.

– TOP 10 –

This is the „cream de la cream” area with the most spectacular puzzles.

This section is not about the level of the examples! It is made for pure joy and for true chess lovers!



(1)

▷ B. Adhiban (2561)

▶ M. Sadler (2660)

Wijk aan Zee

19.01.2012

1. =

**(2)**

▷ E. Sutovsky (2700)

▶ S. Grigoriants (2561)

European Championship

23.03.2012

1. +-

**(3)**

▷ A. Shomoev (2570)

▶ D. Khismatullin (2664)

Aeroflot Open

07.02.2012

1... -+

**(4)**

▷ A. Fier (2603)

▶ A. R. Salem (2505)

Gibraltar

31.01.2012

1. +-



(5)

▷ Zhou Jianchao (2625)

► Bu Xiangzhi (2668)

Xinghua

27.03.2012

1... =

**(6)**

▷ Z. Almasi (2717)

► Alb. David (2598)

Gibraltar

30.01.2012

1. +-

**(7)**

▷ A. Naumann (2546)

► R. Rapport (2547)

German league

26.02.2012

1... =

**(8)**

▷ E. Tomashevsky (2740)

► A. Korobov (2660)

Aeroflot Open

11.02.2012

1. +-



(9)

▷ I. Salgado Lopez (2621)
 ► J. Granda Zuniga (2640)
 Iberoamericano Championship
 22.04.2012

1. +-

**(10)**

▷ E. Rozentalis (2592)
 ► B. Socko (2636)
 Austrian league
 21.04.2012

1... -+



– SOLUTIONS –

(1)

▷ B. Adhiban (2561)

▶ M. Sadler (2660)

Wijk aan Zee

19.01.2012

The last Black move was the great 53...♔d5xg2! It seemed to be all over, but White found a fantastic idea... 54.♖xh6+!! White frees the h4 square for his king, in order to escape there from the matenet. Other moves were losing. [54.exf7? ♔d5+! 55.♖f2 (55.♖g3 ♖8a3+--+) 55...♖xf2+ 56.♖g3 ♖f3+! 57.♖h2 (57.♖h4 ♖aa3--+) 57...♔xf7--+; 54.♖xg2? ♖xg2+ 55.♖xg2 ♖g6+ 56.♖g3 ♖a2+ 57.♖f3 ♖a3+--+] 54...gxh6 55.exf7 and Black has nothing more than a draw. 55...♔d5+ [55...♔f1+ 56.♖h1!] 56.♖g3 ♔xf7 57.♖h4 ♖g8 58.♖xg8 ♖xg8 59.♖xd4 1/2-1/2

(2)

▷ E. Sutovsky (2700)

▶ S. Grigoriants (2561)

European Championship

23.03.2012

The puzzle is really beautiful... 32.♖e8+! ♖h7 33.♖1e5!! ♖xe5 [33...♖xf3 34.♖h5#] 34.♖f6+!! 1-0 This is the point! Black cannot hold the pin of the c2 bishop. [34.♖f6+!! gxf6 (34...♖h6 35.♖g8+ ♖h7 (35...♖g5 36.♖xe5+! ♖xe5 37.♖g4#) 36.♖h5#) 35.♖h5+ ♖g7 36.♖h8#]

(3)

▷ A. Shomoev (2570)

▶ D. Khismatullin (2664)

Aeroflot Open

07.02.2012

It is possible to feel that something should work now, but the position requires powerful handling! 37...♖xg3!! 38.♖xg3 ♖xe3 39.♖xe3 ♖xe3 White must cover the e2 square with the king. 40.♖g4 [40.♖f2? ♖g5+--+]



40...♖e5!! This is the first silent point of the whole combination! Black refreshes the ♖e2 threat. 41.♔d1 [41.♖f2 ♖xd5+--+; 41.f6 ♖e2+--+ Black mates first.] 41...♔d6! And the second subtle point! Black had to foresee this move and its consequences before 37...♖xg3! 42.♖f4 ♖g3+!! The most precise way to win! [42...♖xd5+ 43.♔f3 ♖d2+--+] 43.♖xg3 [43.♖h2 ♖xd5+--+] 43...♖e3+ 44.♖g4 ♔xf4 45.♖xf4 ♖g1+ 0-1

[4]

▷ A. Fier (2603)

► A. R. Salem (2505)

Gibraltar

31.01.2012

A fantastic position with many nice tactics. 39. ♖xe7? [39.f6! would have won on the spot 39...exf6 40. ♕h7+ ♖xh7 41. ♖xd2 ♖xd2 42. ♖xd2+-] 39... ♖g1? Tempting, but losing move. [39... ♖xc2! would have saved the game 40. ♖xc2 ♖xc2 41.f6 Seems like White is winning, but...



41.f6?? And Black has only one move to not lose, but it is actually winning. [It is already White, who should have found the only move to survive. 41. ♖e8+! ♖g7 42.f6+ 42... ♖g6



41... ♖g2!! 42.g6 ♖g1+! 43. ♖d2 (43. ♖e2 ♖xf4+! 44.gxf4 ♖xg6=) 43... ♖g2+! perpetual check, the king can not go forward.] 40. ♕d1? [40. ♖e8+!! This strange looking check would have won the game 40... ♖f7 41. ♕d1!! was the point!! 41... ♖xd1+ (41... ♖xa2 42. ♕xh5+ ♖g7 43.f6+ ♖h7 44.g6+ ♖h6 45. ♖h8#) 42. ♖xf2 ♖xe8 43. ♖b2+-] 40... ♖xa2



43.f7! ♖xf7 (43... ♖g2 with the threat of ♖f3! 44.f5+ ♖xf7 (44... ♖xg5?? 45. ♖g8+-) 45. ♕xh5+ ♖g7 46. ♖e7+=) 44. ♕xh5+ ♖g7 45. ♖e7+ ♖f8 46. ♖e8+ ♖g7 47. ♖e7+= Black can not escape from the perpetual check.]



41...♖g2!! With the threat of ♜f3 and ♖g1 mate. 42.♙f1 [42.♜e8+ ♜h7 43.♜e7+ ♜g6-+] 42...♜h3! 43.♙e2 ♜g1# 0-1

(5)

▷ Zhou Jianchao (2625)

► Bu Xiangzhi (2668)

Xinghua

27.03.2012

Black seems to be lost, but a very long combination saves him! Who could believe, that the a6 pawn plays the main role in the position?! If it were on a7, White would have won. 34... ♖b6+! [34...f5 35.♜xe4!+-] 35.♜f2 ♖b1!! 36.♙xe6 ♖xe1+! 37.♖xe1 ♜b1 Black found this great idea, but the end is very far... 38.♖xb1 ♙xb1 White is a piece up, but both bishops are hanging. 39.♙d5! ♜d8! 40.♙f6 [40.♜b2 ♜xh8=] 40...♜xd5 41.♜b2 Double attack, but here joins the „small” a6 pawn to the game. 41... ♜b5! 42.♜xb5 1/2-1/2 [42.♜d2 ♜b8=]

(6)

▷ Z. Almasi (2717)

► Alb. David (2598)

Gibraltar

30.01.2012

We are facing a really complex mid-game with many nice tactical motifs. 23.♜xh7!! ♜xh7 24.♖h4+ ♜g6! Many tempting moves, but only one leads to win. [24...♜g8 25.♙xg7!! ♜xg7 26.♖h6+ ♜g8 27.g6+-]



25.♙e2 [25.♜xc5!! was the winning move to create the ♙d3 threat. 25...♙f5 (25...♙xc5 26.♙d3+ ♙f5 27.♙xf5+ ♜xf5 28.♖h3+ ♜g6 29.f5#) 26.♙d3! ♙xd3 27.♜xd3+-; 25.♙xg7 Black survives after 25...♜xb3!! 26.♖h6+ (26. axb3 ♜xb3+ 27.cxb3 ♜e5+ 28.♙c4 ♜g4!-+) 26...♜f5 27.♙h3+ (27.axb3 ♖xf4+ 28.♜b1 ♖f2! 29.♙h3+ ♜e4) 27...♜xh3 28.♖xh3+ ♜g6 29.♖h6+ ♜f5 30.♖h3+ leads to draw.] 25... ♜h8! Black defenses well for a while. 26.♖xh8 ♜xb3+! 27.axb3 ♖xf4+ 28.♜b1 But now he goes wrong... 28... ♜d2+? [28...♖xd4 would have saved Black 29.♖h5+ ♜f5 30.♖xf7+ ♙f6 31.♜f1+ White must act quickly due to the threat on b2. 31...♜e4 32.c3



32...♖xc3!! just fantastic! 33.bxc3 (33. ♖g6+ ♜e3 34.bxc3 ♜xb3+=) 33... ♜xb3+ 34.♜a2 ♜a3+ 35.♜b1 ♜b3+= With perpetual check.] 29.♜a2

♖xd4 30. ♖h5+ ♔f5 31. ♖xf7+ ♕f6 32. gxf6! g5 Mutual mistakes are coming now in the timetrouble. [32... ♖xg1 33. fxg7+ ♔e4 34. ♕d3+ ♔e5 35. ♖c7+ ♔f6 36. ♖xb8! ♖b1+ 37. ♔a3+-] **33. ♖h7+?** It would have been very important to transfer the bishop to d3. [33. ♕d3+! ♔f4 34. ♖c7+ ♖e5 35. f7! ♖xc7 36. f8Q++- now, Black does not have ♕f5 resource.] **33... ♔f4 34. ♔d1** [34. ♖c7+ ♖e5 35. f7? ♖xc7 36. f8Q+ ♕f5! was the difference] **34... ♔e3?** This brave move is a decisive mistake. [34... ♖c5 35. ♔xd2 ♖a5+ 36. ♔b1 ♖xd2 37. ♖c7+ ♔f5 38. ♖xb8 ♖e1+ 39. ♔a2 ♖a5+=] **35. ♕d3** [35. ♕h5+-] **35... ♖b4 36. ♔e1+ ♔f3 37. ♖c7!!** This silent move prevents ♖a5 and threats with ♖g3 in the same time! It is over now. **37... ♖h4 38. f7 ♕f5 39. ♔f1+ 1-0**

(7)

▷ A. Naumann (2546)

► R. Rapport (2547)

German league

26.02.2012

♔f3 threatens to trap the queen. What should Black do? **25... ♕d4!! 26. ♔f3!** [26. ♖xd4? cxd4+-] **26... ♖xc4!!** Brilliant idea! All the pieces start to hang. This is White's turn to decide where to take... **27. ♖xd6!** Excellent idea to decoy the c4 knight! [27. ♔b3? Both rooks are trapping now the queen, but still there is an escape. 27... ♖xf4+! 28. ♖xf4 (28. ♔xf4 ♔xf4! 29. ♖xf4 ♖xf4+) 28... ♖g1+ 29. ♔h3 ♖e3! with decisive attack.; 27. ♖xc4? ♖xe4+-]



27... ♔xf4!! Amazing position! There are 10 pieces on the board from which 7 are hanging. [27... ♖xf4+ was less spectacular, but probably leads to the same result. 28. ♖xf4 ♔xf4 29. ♔xe3 ♖xe3+ 30. ♔g3 ♔g4+ 31. ♔f3 ♖xc2 32. ♔b8+ ♔g7 33. ♔xg4 ♖e3+ 34. ♔f3 ♖xd5 35. ♔b7+ and the game should have a peaceful finish.] **28. ♖xf4** White could give a perpetual check, but he allows to his opponent to do the same. [28. ♔b8+ ♔g7 29. ♔b7+ ♔g8=] **28... ♖xf4+ 29. ♔xf4 ♖xf4 30. ♖xc4 ♖g4+** No way to avoid draw. **31. ♔h2** [31. ♔f1 ♖g1+ 32. ♔e2 ♖f2+ 33. ♔d1 ♖f1+ 34. ♔d2 ♖f2+ 35. ♔c1 ♖e1+ 36. ♔d1 ♖c3+ 37. ♖c2 ♖e1+=] **31... ♖h4+ 32. ♔g2 ♖g4+ 33. ♔h2 ♖h4+ 34. ♔g2 ♖g4+ 1/2-1/2**

(8)

▷ E. Tomashevsky (2740)

► A. Korobov (2660)

Aeroflot Open

11.02.2012

24.e6? [24. ♖xf7! was winning in a study-like way. It is impossible for a human to foresee any of the lines, we can only trust in our intuitions and imaginations. 24... ♖d2! (24... ♔xf7? 25. ♖c4++-) 25. ♖xd2! ♕xd2 26. ♔c7!



26...e3! Everything was forced until this moment, but what to do now? Black's e-pawn is promoting with mate... 27.f6!! with the idea of ♖h6! (On 27.♖h6+ gxh6



28.f6 Black has a brilliant defense: 28...♖a8!! Only move, the rook must be protected. a) 28...♖b8 does not save Black 29.e6 ♕b4 (29...e2? 30.f7+ ♖f8 31.♕a3+-) 30.♖g7+ ♖f8 31.e7+ ♖e8 32.♖g8+- wins.; b) 28...e2 29.f7+ ♖f8 30.♕a3+ ♖e7 31.♕xe7+ ♖xf7 32.♕b4+-; 29.e6 ♕b4! and White has nothing more than draw. (29...e2? 30.f7+ ♖f8 31.♕a3+-) 30.♖g7+ ♖f8 31.♖xh7 (31.e7+? ♖e8!) 31...♖g8=) 27...♖c8 The tension is still on the maximum.



a) 27...h6 is very tricky, to give „air” for the king, but... 28.♖g5!! (28.♖xh6+? ♖h7!) 28...♖h8 (28...hxcg5 29.f7+ ♖f8 30.♕a3+-) 29.f7! ♖a8 30.♖xb7 hxcg5 (30...e2? 31.♖f3) 31.♕d4! e2 32.♕f2±; b) 27...e2? 28.♖h6+!+-; 28.♖h6+! gxh6 29.f7+ ♖g7 30.e6+! ♖g6 31.♖xc8 e2 I recommend you to stop here and try to solve the remaining part of the puzzle!



32.♖c1!! Only move, but still it seems like White can hardly stop the e-pawn, while Black's dark squared bishop together with the king will catch the passers. But the truth is the opposite! 32...♕xc1 33.♕c3! ♕a3 34.b4!! Black has to give up his own hope to stop the f-pawn. 34...e1Q+ 35.♕xe1 ♖g7 and here comes the keymove: 36.♕d2!!+- (but not 36.♕c3+ ♖f8 37.♕d2 because of 37...♕b2!)] 24...fxe6 25.♖c7 1/2-1/2 Clev-

er draw offer, since 25... ♖e7 would give a slight advantage for Black. [25. ♖c7 ♖e7+; 25. ♘xe6 ♙d6 26. h3 ♖xe6! 27. ♖c4! ♖f4 28. ♖xe6+ ♘f8 29. ♖c8+ ♙xc8 30. ♖xc8+=]

(9)

▷ I. Salgado Lopez (2621)
 ▶ J. Granda Zuniga (2640)
 Iberoamericano Championship
 22.04.2012

28. ♘xf7!! The move suggested itself, but it had to be calculated precisely! 28... ♘xf7 29. ♙xf6 ♙xf6 [29... ♖xf6 30. ♘g5+ ♘e7 31. ♖f3!+-] 30. ♖xh7+ ♘f8 [On 30... ♘e6 31. ♖ed3!!+- Black can not hold himself against the threats.]



31. ♘h4! Only this way, but before making this move, you had to see the final position. Unless you have exceptional intuitions. 31... ♙h4 32. ♖f3+! ♙f6 33. ♖xd7!! In order to open the bishop's diagonal. Everything is forced! 33... ♘xd7 [33... ♖xd7 34. ♖xf6+-] 34. c5! ♖e6 Black seems to hold, but the final strike is just coming! 35. ♙d5! ♖a6 36. c6! 1-0

(10)

▷ E. Rozentalis (2592)
 ▶ B. Socko (2636)
 Austrian league
 21.04.2012

I thought such kind of puzzles were existing only in the 19th century! 17... ♘d2!! 18. ♘xc6 ♘f3+ 19. ♘h1 ♙g2+!! This is the brilliant point! 20. ♘xg2 ♘xe1+ 21. ♘h3 ♘xc2 22. ♘xe7+ ♘f8 23. ♙xc5 ♘xa1 24. ♘c6+ ♘e8 25. ♘xd8 ♘xd8-+ After this long and forced line Black achieved a winning endgame. Unfortunately, he blundered later and drew the game after such a beautiful combination...



Balogh Csaba was born on 19th of March 1987.
His current rating is 2672. Grandmaster since 2004.
European individual U-16 Champion in 2003, Budva.
Member of the Hungarian national Team since 2005.
Best tournament result:
Winner of the Fischer memorial Supertournament
in 2008, Hévíz.

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